



# Jury people march against peace camp at Greenham Common

The people of Newbury, Berkshire, yesterday staged a protest against the women's peace camp at Greenham Common. About 300 marched through the town centre to the market place carrying banners reading "Enough" and "Greenham Common women get out of Newbury".

The march was greeted with applause and shouts of "well done" and "marvellous" by shoppers in the town centre, but it also met with some opposition.

One man twice had to be pulled away by the police when he lay down in front of a Union Jack-bedecked car leading the march. Another man walked beside the procession carrying a placard reading "I'm for peace women and I live in Newbury".

A girl aged 14 supporting the peace women was taken away by the police when she tried to force her way into the march carrying a banner. There were isolated scuffles when the march finished in the town centre. Later, arguments broke out between the two sides.

The protest was organized by Miss Sheila Shedden, aged 62, a retired nurse, who is 4ft 10in tall. She asked marchers not to retaliate and to ignore supporters of the peace women. She insisted that the demonstration was non-political. People in Newbury were "sick to death" at the unpleasantness they had had to suffer.

"Their behaviour is a disgrace to womanhood", she said of the Greenham Common women. They were anxious to be martyrs, but the real martyrs were the children they had left behind.

"If you and I kept a child in the conditions some of these children are kept in up there, they would be taken into care", she said.

Miss Shedden, who was commended for bravery when she went to the rescue of policemen injured in Southampton during the Second World War, asked why Newbury ratepayers should have to pay for the cost of the Greenham Common women's protest.

Conditions at the camp were a health hazard, she said. Rats had spread to houses near by and an enormous area was "as deep in human excreta" as the women's tents.

She urged the women to go away and return only for one-day demonstrations.

Mr Jane Dennett, aged 58, a Greenham Common protester, said that the day's march would make no difference and the peace camp would continue.

She said that she had been an antique dealer in Newbury and had paid rates. She denied that children at the camp were ill cared for. "We have only three children at the camp and they all go to school", she said.

Miss Shedden distributed 15,000 leaflets in support of the demonstration. Marchers were asked to fill in forms stating their objections to the peace camp, which was set up in September, 1981. The forms will be sent to the Prime Minister.

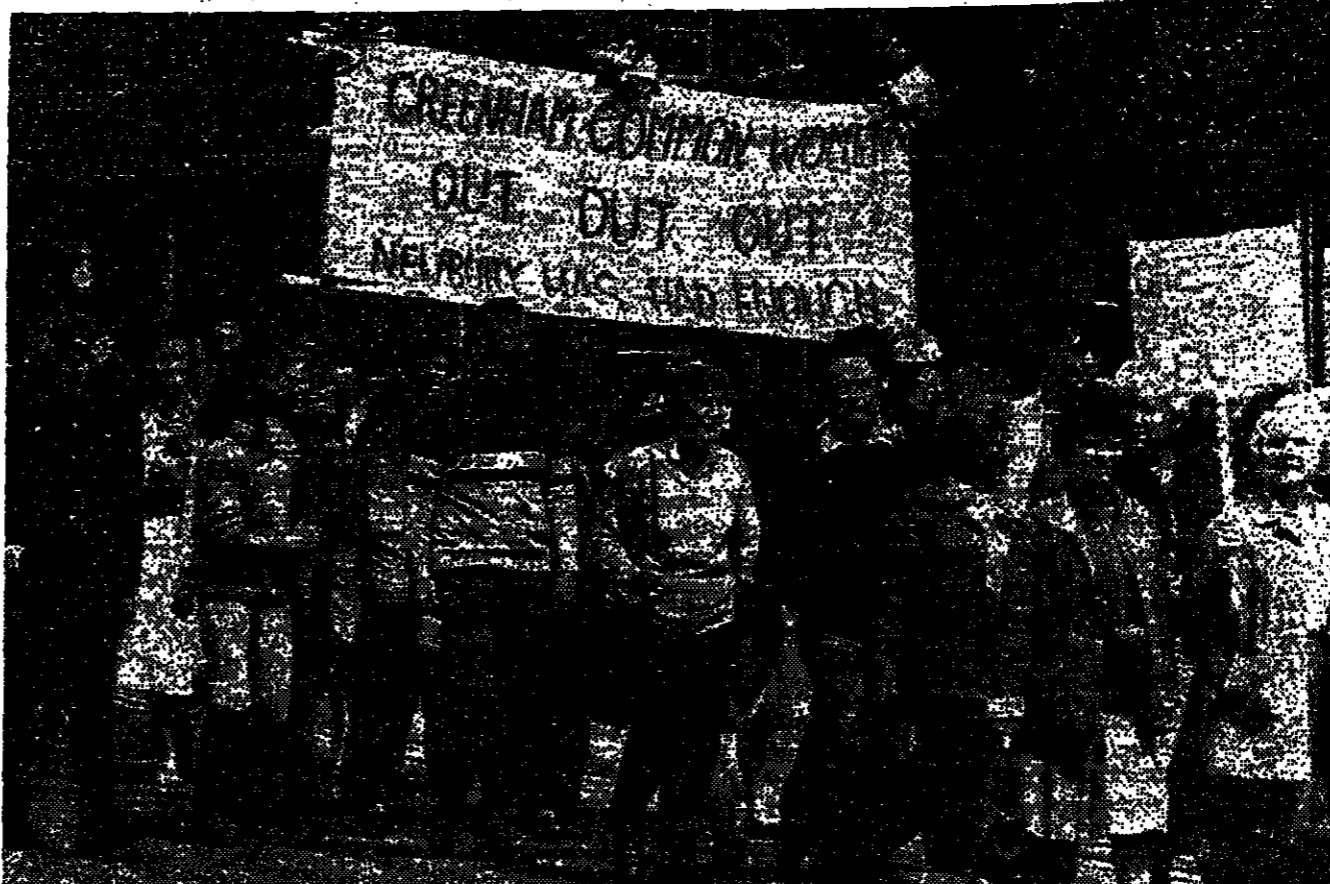
Police made a further 34 arrests yesterday as the four-day attempted blockade of the American air base at Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire, continued.

There were 71 arrests on Tuesday as Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament supporters sat down outside the entrances to the base, trying to block the paths of military personnel.

The exercise is to draw attention to the 70 F1-11 nuclear fighter bombers based at Upper Heyford.

Initial attempts to close roads to the base failed through lack of numbers and a heavy police presence. Demonstrators were outnumbered by at least three to one, with more police held in reserve.

Supt Wyn Jones, of Thames Valley Police, said that fewer people were involved in the protest yesterday and some of the 11 entrances manned by demonstrators on Tuesday had only a token presence.



People of Newbury marching through the town centre yesterday to demonstrate their opposition to the Greenham Common women's peace camp.

## Science Report 'Hot bugs' bring new view on rules of life

By the Staff of Nature

The discovery of bacteria that thrive at temperatures of 250°C, about 15° higher than the ignition temperature of paper, is leading scientists to rethink the rules governing where life could evolve.

It now seems likely that life can survive anywhere where there is liquid water and an adequate supply of nutrients. That means that bacteria could well be living within the Earth's crust, and that life could have evolved in other parts of the Universe where it was previously thought impossible.

The bacteria which have caused the speculation from 2650m below the surface of the Pacific Ocean. They live above the sulphate chimneys or "black smokers" which leak sulphurous gases from inside the earth's crust into the ocean at 21°N along the East Pacific Rise.

At those points the pressure is about 250 atmospheres and the temperature can rise to above 350°C, which makes the conditions extremely inhospitable to life.

To see how tough those conditions are we need to look at more familiar situations. Most plants and animals die if their temperature exceeds 40°C, and most bacteria die when taken above 70°C.

Very few microbes survive above 85°C, and the record for resisting high temperatures has up till now been given to the sulphur spring bacteria, which could endure up to 105°C.

When bacteria were found in samples of water from black smokers, the question therefore immediately arose, were the bacteria actually living there or had they simply been, for example, swept there by the tide?

To answer that, John Baross of Oregon State University and a team of scientists at the Johns Hopkins University in the United States, created a kind of laboratory pressure cooker in which they nurtured colonies of bacteria. By keeping the pressure at about 265 atmospheres they could raise the temperature of the water to 460°C without it boiling.

They found that two strains of primitive bacteria thrived at 250°C, increasing their number 100-fold in a few hours, and furthermore, that these bacteria could exist at 300°C. That was only a few degrees lower than the temperature of the water from which they had originally been taken, which showed that the bacteria had probably been living in those waters and had not simply been washed there by chance.

Furthermore, the gases that the bacteria gave off were the same as those found in the water around the black smokers, which could be evidence that large numbers of those bacteria exist in the East Pacific Rise.

These extraordinary results give rise to the possibility that pockets of primitive bacteria live in other inhospitable and unlikely places, both on the Earth and in space, and the reason why nobody has yet found them is simply that they have not been looking.

Source: Nature, vol 303, p 423 (1983). © Nature-Times News Service, 1983.

## Father sues Tebbit over son's death

From Our Correspondent Sheffield

A father whose son aged 17 was killed on a youth opportunity scheme is to sue Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Employment in a test case.

Mr Richard Cain is to bring a High Court action against Mr Tebbit, the Manpower Services Commission and local officials who placed Derek Cain at C Plumb and Son's paper-shredding factory in Wincobank, Sheffield, where he died.

Mr Cain, an unemployed engineering worker, alleges incompetence in managing the scheme and failure to carry out proper safety checks. He wants the MSC to be made to accept a higher degree of legal responsibility for youngsters on YOP schemes.

Derek Cain died in December from head injuries after being hit by the blades of a paper shredding machine. He had been working at the factory for three weeks.

An inquest jury, who returned an open verdict, were told he was operating the machine alone. Proceedings are now being brought against the company under the Factories Act.

In the months up to February, six youngsters died on YOP schemes, 43 needed amputations and there were 3,211 other injuries.

Mr Cain, aged 41, of Sandstone Avenue, Wincobank, said: "In all these cases the MSC try to shift the blame on to the factory where the youngsters were working. I want to prove that the MSC actually employs the youngsters. They pay their wages and they should accept a greater responsibility for their safety when they send them to firms."

## Cocaine worth £1m seized at hotel

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Six men were questioned by Scotland Yard's drug squad yesterday after an undercover operation netted cocaine worth a street value of up to £1m in raids at the Cumberland Hotel, at Marble Arch, in west London.

The operation, begun some weeks ago, ended on Tuesday, when detectives moved into the four-star hotel with the agreement of senior management and security staff.

Shortly after 7 pm a group of officers arrested a group of men drinking in the ground-floor Nocturne Bar. Other officers searched rooms elsewhere in the hotel. Further arrests were made with the discovery of three kilos of cocaine.

The cocaine, in plastic bags, was examined yesterday by chemists.

A spokesman for the hotel said that the arrests in the bar, close to the busy reception area, were very discreet.

The operation was under the command of Det Chief Supt Roy Penrose, who was recently appointed head of the drugs squad.

## Battle of the Boyne site to be sold

A piece of Ulster's history, the site of the Battle of the Boyne, is to be auctioned soon. Auctioneers expect the site of King William III's victory in 1690 to raise £150,000.

The 30 acres of farming land, near Drogheda in Co. Louth, is owned by a private trust fund, King William's Field Marshal is buried near by, but there is no longer any memorial marking the battle, commemorated annually in the July 12th parades.

## No rise in London fares 'for years'

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

Fares on London buses and tubes, which came down by a quarter last month, may stay the same for several years, Dr Keith Bright, the Transport chairman, predicted yesterday.

That will be achieved not by higher subsidies from rates and taxes but by staff reductions and higher productivity, he declared, announcing an effort by LT to break out of the spiral of rising fares and declining services of recent years.

A three-year plan submitted to the Government and the Greater London Council yesterday proposes:

A virtual abolition of ticket collectors on the Underground, with automatic barriers in the central area and open stations on the outskirts.

Travelling inspectors with powers to impose on-the-spot fines of up to £50 on fare-dodgers, who cost LT £30m a year.

A major shift from revenue support to capital investment, with the former falling from £209m to £167m over the next three years and the latter rising from £150m to £200m.

A sharp drop in staff from 58,000 to 52,000 and productivity rises of 11 per cent on the buses and 4 per cent on the tubes compared with falls of 13 and 20 per cent respectively over the past five years.

More new buses, trains and station improvements, with more one-person-operated buses.

Possible subcontracting of uneconomic services to minibuses and other independent operators who could run them more cheaply.

Dr Bright, a successful industrialist who took over at LT last autumn, described the attempt to reverse the spiral of decline as "like turning the Queen Mary round".

He is steering a dangerous course that could bring him into conflict with either left or right, whichever party is returned to power.

His proposed level of subsidy, though lower than envisaged by the Labour GLC, is higher than the Conservative Government wants. His proposal to cut staff and shift subsidy from revenue support to capital investment could run into trouble with a Labour administration.

He took both risks philosophically at a press conference at LT's Victoria headquarters yesterday. The alternative was decline, and eventually a delapidated railway like New York's.

The shift to more capital investment was the way to get a better system in the long term.

"No one is pleased to have to get rid of staff, but our responsibility is not to help people to keep jobs that no longer exist, but to run an efficient transport system."

"We hope to hold fares constant as long as possible and to avoid rapid jumps in the future. To do this we must cut costs quite dramatically, by 9 per cent in the next three years."

## Falklands seamen seek jobs

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Union of Seamen paraded 10 unemployed veterans of the Falklands campaign, complete with South Atlantic medals, at its headquarters in London yesterday, and protested to Mrs Margaret Thatcher that hundreds of Merchant Navy ratings who had risked death were now "abandoned to the humiliation of unemployment".

Mr James Slater, general secretary of the NUS, has written to the Prime Minister to say that if she is re-elected and does not change government shipping policy, the merchant fleet will be halved by 1990.

Seamen's leaders are seeking and exclusive right for British ships to carry coastal cargoes round Britain, and state aid for the shipping industry on a scale which they say is given to competitor countries.

The NUS says that more than 7,000 who served as volunteers with the Falklands task force are unemployed and many more may soon join them.

In his letter to Mrs Thatcher, Mr Slater says: "Among British seamen a deep fund of bitterness has been created by the way in which their services were rewarded. They were called upon in your hour of need, but their plight today is ignored as they are abandoned to the humiliation of unemployment."

"You have a special responsibility not only to those Falklands veterans but also to the British people as a whole to defend this country's proud maritime heritage and maintain a strong merchant fleet for the benefit of future generations."

"You have failed to do so, and sadly this union must conclude from your determination to continue the disastrous policies of the last four years that the reelection of a Conservative government will lead inevitably to the demise of Britain's merchant fleet."

## Library ends blacking out racing in newspapers

From Our Correspondent, Greenock

An era of Victorian morality has come to an end in Greenock central library, near Glasgow. It has decided to stop blacking out the racing sections of newspapers, ranging from *The Times* to the *Morning Star*, in its reading room.

Joy Monteith, the chief librarian, said yesterday: "I am absolutely mortified by the whole incident. We are obviously censoring in any form of censorship, but the practice seems to have been carried on unthinkingly since I came here in 1978."

Mr Keith Lawrey, secretary general of the Library Association, asked how widespread the blacking was, said: "I have never heard of it before. Our association is opposed to censorship of any sort."

But a colleague in the association said: "This practice started in the nineteenth cen-

## Library ends blacking out racing in newspapers

tury and was an attempt to keep people away from gin palaces and racing. I thought it had stopped some 50 or 60 years ago."

A spokesman at the Mitchell Library, in Glasgow, claimed to be the largest public reference library in west Europe, said: "I am amazed at the practice surviving. It is a relic of bygone days, when libraries and librarians saw themselves as the guardians of public morality."

Mr John Fabre, secretary of Moral Rearmament, commented: "I think it is a good thing that the library has stopped doing this. I do not know whether someone who has gambling as the deepest thing in his heart would get guidance from God but with blacked out newspapers I think they would need it."

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## 'Low' pay offer for railmen

One of the lowest pay offers of the present round was yesterday made to Britain's 160,000 railway workers.

At joint talks in London, British Rail told them they could have 3.75 per cent from the anniversary date of April 18, or 4.25 per cent from the first Monday after settlement. Union negotiators said the offer was not good enough and they would report back to their executives.

## Sierra sales fall to fifth place

The Ford Sierra, which headed British car sales in March and April, dropped to fifth place last month. Ford said yesterday that the company had stopped promoting the car so hard in the showrooms.

The fear of industrial action at Ford's Halewood plant in Liverpool, was revived yesterday when the final stage of national negotiating machinery was reached without agreement on proposed efficiency measures.

## Belfast bomb attack foiled

Seven people were being interviewed by police in Belfast last night after two incidents, including one on which security forces believe they foiled a pre-emption bomb attack.

They seized 500 lb of explosives packed into 11 gas cylinders on a van at an industrial estate in West Belfast on Tuesday and arrested six people. Later the same day an armed man was shot and injured after he fled when spotted by a police patrol.

## Big barges bring hope of a canal revival

By Our Transport Editor

Britain's biggest freight canal investment for 75 years was launched in Rotherham yesterday amid slender hopes that it would boost investment and employment in a depressed South Yorkshire.

The £16m South Yorkshire canal improvement, increasing barge capacity from 90 to 700 tonnes from Rotherham to the Humber ports, was opposed by successive governments for years until Labour approved it on the eve of the last general election.

Now it symbolizes the hopes of conservationists that the last transport revolution but three (inland waterways stimulated the first industrial revolution in the eighteenth century) is heading for a resurgence.

Intellectually, the case for the canal looks good. Water transport is clean, cheap and quiet, and one 700-tonne barge is the equivalent of 35 of the least juggernauts.

Unfortunately, canals are even more remote than railways from the high street shops, computer centres and electronics factories where economic resurgence is likely to be experienced.

The British Waterways Board predicts a growth from 500,000 to nearly two million tonnes over the next five years.

Sir Frank Price, the board's chairman and tireless advocate of the project, declared yesterday that commercial waterways are heading for a second innings, and if the initial investment is followed up with vision, enterprise and courage, new factories will put down roots along the waterway.

## Police doctors unhappy with new breath machine

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The new electronic breath-testing machine is to be investigated after reports from some police doctors of a high failure rate.

The Association of Police Surgeons is to conduct a three-month survey on the machine after reports from some members that they are being called out as much as three or four times a week.

Dr Hugh de la Haye Davies, the association's secretary, said yesterday: "We are not criticising the machine, which has been well tested and is accurate. The fault is that it is too accurate. It is so built up with fail-safe devices that it does not operate if the slightest thing goes wrong."

When that happens the police surgeons are being called to take blood samples, he said. Under the new system doctors had expected to be less involved.

The survey, conducted through 30 police surgeons throughout the country, will also look at how often police surgeons are being called out to take samples in borderline cases. Those are where the motorist has 40 to 50 mg of alcohol in 100ml of breath, although the legal limit is 35 mg.

The new machines, or Intoximeters, were installed a month ago in more than 700 police stations. The Home Office is also monitoring the accuracy of the machine's readings. Field trials on 1,500 motorists stopped on suspicion of being over the legal limit have shown very similar results between the new machines and blood or urine samples.

## Little known painters in demand

By Huon Mallabon

Prices and values in sales of topographical paintings and drawings are by no means always determined by quality. The subject matter is often more important than the level of artistic accomplishment in the execution. Since most bidders, too, are interested only in views of their own countries, the various markets are easily affected by outside political and economic events.

From that point of view, if the results of Sotheby's sale yesterday are anything to go by, most parts of the world seem to be weathering the recession, wars and rumours of wars fairly happily.

The Greek section produced some remarkable results, most notably a payment of £55,000 by Mr George Kay, a London dealer, for a striking portrait of Katharina Bozzaris, the daughter of a revolutionary hero, by the little known Joseph Szieler (estimate £5,000 to £8,000).

From the same part of the world came a painting of fisherman pulling in their nets, by Constantin Bolonachi, which had been estimated at £15,000 to £20,000 but sold for £39,200 to a private bidder.

The same buyer paid £15,400 for a volume of lithographs of Greek scenes after Charles Krausz, which were published in Munich between 1828 and 1831 (estimate £5,000 to £7,000).

A surprise from the other side of the world was £5,060 paid by Mr Neville Keating, the dealer, for John Skinner Proust's 14 lithographs and text, "Sydney Illustrated", which were published in 1844 and had been estimated at between £300 and £400.

## Murder trial

Richard Anthony Gambrell was sent for trial to Cardiff Crown Court yesterday charged with the murder of Mr John Hughes Williams, aged 61, of Llanddewi Brefi, Dyfed.

The police violated the European Convention on Human Rights when they tapped the telephone of a Surrey antique dealer, the European Commission of Human Rights has ruled.

By 11 votes, with one abstention, the Commission

## Phone tapping violated convention

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

upheld a complaint by Mr James Malone, of Dorset, that there was a breach of his rights when police tapped a telephone conversation in 1977.

The finding, forecast in *The Times* in January, will be referred to the European Court of Human Rights, where it is expected to lead to a ruling against the United Kingdom.

Mr Malone was charged in 1977 with offences relating to handling of stolen goods. He was acquitted. But during the trial it emerged that a telephone conversation had been intercepted by the police.

## Case for Sizewell 'tissue thin'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The economic case for building an American type of pressurized water nuclear reactor (PWR) at Sizewell, in Suffolk, is "tissue thin", a submission opposing the project by the Council for the Protection of Rural England says.

The evidence against the scheme will be presented to the public inquiry which resumes today at Church House, Westminster, after an adjournment at the Maltings concert hall, Snape, Suffolk, where the hearing began in January.

The council's case is expected to take about six weeks, with expert witnesses from the United States and Britain.

However, the council's main argument is that the Sizewell reactor would cost £1,740m, 50 per cent more than the estimate of £1,147m of the Central Electricity Generating Board.

Energy conservation measures costing about £65m a year over the next 15 years would be a more cost-effective investment for electricity consumers, according to the council.

Mr Robin Grove-White the council's director, said: "The CEBG's plan will have a massive impact on England's countryside. We are opposing Sizewell B because if allowed it would be the first of a succession of similar major schemes around our remote coastline and countryside, perhaps as many as twenty over the next 25 years."

"More modest investment in

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# Women's institutes in drive to gain new image among the young

By a Correspondent

The National Association of Women's Institutes is hoping to add a campaigning and caring image to its present "jam and Jerusalem" reputation at its annual meeting in London today.

To do that it believes it needs to attract women between the ages of 30 and 50, who now make up a small proportion of its membership. It has launched a bright new video which puts across the message, accompanied by a pop music song written for the institute. "Prospects are sky high at the WI".

But most of all the WI will present its national campaign, Women in the Community, to show the wide range of activities it is involved with and which it feels are in need of change.

The promotion includes women in education, in health and in public life, and hopes to encourage its members in each of these areas.

The WI suggests that the Education Act, 1944, should be amended to make adult education a compulsory part of government spending; more women should be in central and



Mrs. Harris: "Change in ideas, not ideals".

local government and there should be training and preparation for that, and a greater awareness of all things to do with health.

Although these are not great policy changes, WI leaders hope they can be promoted in a way that will give the organization the standing of the important pressure group they say it is. "We want a change in ideas

and image without a change in ideals", Mrs. Anne Harris, the WI chairman, told *The Times*. "The jam and Jerusalem is still there but we are also about friendship and fun. I want people to know what we really do and who we really are".

The fall in membership, now totalling 370,000, is not considered to be serious but Mrs. Harris admitted that if it continued financial difficulties would result. However, help from commercial organizations, including British Home Stores and the National Westminster Bank, is being received in far greater measure.

Today's meeting, at the Albert Hall, in London, will include discussion on four policy areas: the legal status of artificially produced embryos, care of the terminally ill, the rights of widowers to gain a pension on the death of their wives if contributions are made to a pension scheme, and the need for planning permission for agricultural buildings, some of which are exempt from planning controls.

It will also include the singing of "Jerusalem".



# Some parents and children approve of video 'nasties'

By Kenneth Goetting

"I am just delivering 'Nightmares in a Damaged Brain' for the Speights and their five children", a video dealer in Leeds said as he drove a vanload of horror films round to clients.

Stephen Taylor, the dealer, was the first to be prosecuted under section 2 of the Obscene Publications Act. He was fined £500, which he thought excessive.

In a documentary film, "A Gentleman's Agreement?" to be shown on Channel 4 next Wednesday, having been cleared by the Independent Broadcasting Authority, he explains why his customers have a big appetite for video "nasties".

He also explains why, although he thinks the film should have been banned, he was happy to be the first to be prosecuted for dealing in obscene video films. "If I had been the second I might have got six months' imprisonment".

The film, made by Broadside with the aim of drawing public attention to the scene with which videos such as "SS Experiment Camp" can be rented, also shows interviews with children and parents who raise no objection to horror and violence.

One child says: "They are true life films about everyday things". "True life" includes the story of a woman who is raped

by four men and is then shown, in a wicker of blood, taking her revenge in "SS Experiment Camp". "I Spat on your Grave" is illustrated by a scene showing naked women being burnt in ovens.

Mr Taylor says in the documentary, that he conducted a survey among his customers to ask whether they approved of video "nasties", now the subject of a voluntary code of practice drawn up by the British Videogram Association. "Not one of them objected", he says.

One of the parents interviewed explains that no one from outside sees the horror films the family sees regularly. "If anyone is going to be corrupted by them it will only be us", she says.

But Mr Gareth Wardell, who in the last Parliament withdrew a private member's Bill aimed at legislating against the "nasties" to see if a voluntary code works, says the profits are too big for it to be possible to impose "a gentleman's agreement on people who basically are not gentlemen".

Dr Alan Gilmore, of the NSPCC, speaks of the permanent damage some videos can do to children. "Just as it is wrong to let a three-year-old have matches to play with, or a seven-year-old to have a loaded shotgun around, I think children need protection from strong videos as well".

# Campaign to protect sale deposits

By Our Correspondent

The six metropolitan authorities have launched a campaign to legislate to protect people from companies which accept money for ordered goods and go bankrupt before delivery.

A present there is nothing to stop firms on the verge of insolvency from placing prepaid cash in their accounts. The authorities want any money paid as a cash deposit for goods or services to be lodged in separate accounts, or covered by bonding guarantee that the money is safe.

# Guitarist's drug death

Mr Peter Farndon, aged 30, guitarist with the Pretenders group, drowned in the bath after taking a combination of heroin and cocaine. She overdosed on Westminister Coroners' Court heard yesterday. He was the second member of the group to die from a drugs overdose within a year.

The coroner, Dr Paul Knappman, recorded a verdict of drug addiction.

# Woman spotted bomb hoaxers

Miss Julie Michaels-Anyibofu, aged 20, a West End secretary, was awarded £150 at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for trapping two bomb hoaxers. She overheard two men making a telephone call saying that an IRA bomb had been planted in the Natwest Tower, in the city. She followed them and identified them to the police.

# New presenter for TV-am

Miss Anne Diamond, aged 28, formerly of BBC television *Nationwide*, has been appointed a presenter of TV-am's *Good Morning Britain* programme. For several weeks, TV-am has had an average viewing figure of 200,000, compared with the BBC's breakfast programme peak of two million.

# Attempt on Atlantic record

Tom McClean, a former SAS member, flew to Canada yesterday to try to recapture the record for sailing across the Atlantic in the smallest boat. Mr McClean, aged 41, from Mammaig on the west coast of Scotland, will sail from St Johns in a weeks time in his tiny boat *Giltspur* which is just 7 feet 10 inches long.

# Eating into French breakfast habits

By John Lawless

The idea of the French being persuaded to abandon coffee-drunk croissants in favour of a British egg and bacon breakfast will take a step nearer becoming reality next week when eight of France's top retailers will be guests of the government-backed Food from Britain campaign.

"We will be giving them a full British breakfast on the first morning", the campaign's marketing manager, Mr Trevor Barker explained yesterday. "Eggs, bacon and much more".

Market research has put bacon at the top of Britain's potential best-sellers in France and the Egg Authority will have a stand of its own at the Royal Show, in Stoneleigh, Warwick, to push its battle of the plain towards Britain's EEC partners.

Twenty-five foreign senior store managers have been invited, representing Food from Britain's first important promotion, and probably the biggest inward mission of buyers which Britain has funded.

Most are from France, but others are from West Germany and the Benelux countries, and one from the United States. "They are coming from our priority markets, and are top people from stores like Prismaic and Carrefour", Mr Barker said.

The 55 million French people spend £27,000m a year on food, but how they will take to Britain's other priority sales sectors is open to question.

British researchers emphasize that even *pain* can be challenged. They feel sufficiently confident to suggest

that British-made crispbread has a great potential in France (a claim that will raise a few Scandinavian eyebrows). But then, so have biscuits, cakes, chocolates, frozen foods and even cheese.

"We will also put a particular emphasis on selling British lamb in France", Mr Barker said. "It has caused some problems in the past, but the indications are that the market is now receptive".

Only last month French farmers seized a lorry loaded with British mutton at Cherbourg and poured fuel oil over it. But promotions for lamb are shortly to be staged in several French cities.

"In the short term we are talking about half-a-dozen big group promotions, not just one-off shop events", Mr Barker said.

Whether next Monday's lunch menu will be split country by country is not known. But the prospects for West Germans look best for speciality beefs and they will be urged to buy more tea, whisky, fruits and vegetables.

Celery shows great potential", Mr Barker added.

Britain has sold more than 250,000 tonnes of wheat to Poland since the last harvest in a long campaign to reduce stocks by selling abroad. But the Home Grown Cereals Authority reported yesterday that Britain still has a "mountain" of well over a million tonnes stored off the market under EEC rules (Hugh Clayton writes).

Most of the stock consisted of barley, but there is still about 400,000 tonnes of wheat, despite exports since last summer's harvest

# Irish banks reject the British pound coin

Banks in the Irish Republic are refusing to recognize the British pound coin, saying it is "too bulky and expensive to handle".

Shops, hotels and public houses throughout the republic, however, failed to get the message on time and after last week's Bank holiday influx of British tourists they have been left with thousands of now worthless pounds.

Householders near an industrial estate in Dublin were delighted this week when a landscaped garden suddenly appeared at the gates of the site. But the next morning the trees and shrubs were just as quickly uprooted by workmen.

Dublin County Council said yesterday that it wanted the estate to look as good as possible for its opening, so it rented about fifty trees and a hundred shrubs.

This swirring ragged brown leather cape draped with fox tails price £275, designed by Brian Rennie, a student at Ravensbourne College of Art in Chislehurst, Kent was the best trim award winner with a £100 prize, in the annual Saga Design Awards held in London yesterday.

Students of Harrow College of Higher Education, in north-west London and Ravensbourne College of Art competed (Photograph: Suresh Karadia)

# Wife's fears for injured Red Devil

From Our Correspondent

The wife of sergeant-major Kenneth Yeoman, of the Red Devils free-fall team, who broke his back saving a colleague described her fears about the determination to jump again. Sergeant-major Yeoman, aged 37, who is paralysed below the waist, was transferred yesterday by helicopter from Truro, where he underwent surgery after the accident, to Stoke Mandeville Hospital, in Buckinghamshire.

He was injured when he landed heavily after clutching on to corporal Kenneth Campbell, whose parachute had failed to open while the Red Devils were training in Cornwall on May 4.

Mrs Rose Yeoman, aged 33, who spent more than two weeks at his bedside after the accident, said yesterday: "He is determined to get better. He has put a lot into the Red Devils and wants to get back in the team and jump again as soon as possible."

"That's understandable, but I really do not want him to jump again."

Mrs Yeoman, who has two teenage sons and a daughter, aged eight, said: "All we can do now is take every day as it comes. It is quite hard at times to carry on as normal, but the children and I cannot let Kenneth see that we are worried. We have got to be strong for his sake. He has been in an awful lot of pain, yet he has never complained."

Sergeant-major Yeoman who has been in the Parachute Regiment for 19 years, joined the Red Devils just over three years ago. He has been married for 16 years.

Mrs Yeoman, from Aldershot, Hampshire, added: "I have every confidence that he will be all right. He felt pins and needles in his feet on Tuesday and that is good sign."

Her son Paul, aged 14, said he could not wait to make his first parachute jump.

# Big increase in business sponsorship of arts

By Frances Gibb

Sponsorship of the arts by business has risen from less than £1m seven years ago to £13m a year, according to the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts.

One reason is a growing appreciation by companies of the marketing potential in such sponsorship. Mr Nicholas Owen, chairman of the association's management committee, said: "A few years ago companies thought sponsoring the arts was entirely charitable."

"Now they realize there is also another aspect; it is a tool

they can use for corporate promotion in one form or another."

When the association was set up in 1976 under Mr Luke Rittner, now secretary-general designate of the Arts Council, business was estimated to be spending about £750,000 a year on the arts. But the findings of a survey taken among the association's 125 members show spending now to be about £13m a year.

The rate of growth had been running at between 25 and 30 per cent a year, Mr Owen said.

# Family seeks state-paid flight to Australia

Mrs Cynthia Newsome, who was called a scrounger when she and her five children arrived in Britain from Australia penniless four years ago, asked for money again yesterday to return to Australia.

Under Britain's social security laws the state may foot the bill of £1,500 if officials think it will save them money in the long run.

Mrs Newsome caused an uproar when she arrived in her home town of Rotherham with no money and was given a

council house, £200 in state benefits, furniture and £50 a week social security benefits.

When Mr Newsome arrived he admitted he had £5,000 in savings. He was later fined £120 for defrauding the Department of Health and Social Security.

The couple's marriage ended in divorce last year after 25 years but they remarried in February. Last week Mr Newsome walked out and Mrs Newsome is asking for the air fare to return with her family to Australia.

# US astronomers claim a planet is born

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

The first tentative identification of a planet outside our own solar system will be announced this summer by a group of American astronomers.

An object close to the young star T Tauri seems to be a large planet in the process of formation, according to Dr Douglas Lin and colleagues at the University of California, Santa Cruz, who have analysed observations made by

several American telescopes over the last 18 months.

There proposal is likely to start a scientific controversy when it is published in the July issue of *Astrophysical Journal Letters*.

Some astronomers who are familiar with the observations maintain that the mysterious object is more likely to represent a very small new star which has not yet switched itself on properly and is still

smoked by dust. But Dr Lin believes that the planetary hypothesis is the best explanation for the evidence so far.

The discovery of a "proto-planet" in the process of formation would have great implications. First, it could tell astronomers a lot about the early development of the solar system.

Secondly, it would add weight to the argument that life is widespread elsewhere in

the Universe. Any intelligent life remotely like our own would have to evolve on a planet, and although most astronomers believe that many other stars have planetary systems, they have had no direct evidence to reject the possibility that the solar system arose through a unique accident.

The proposed proto-planet is called T Tauri Infrared Companion (TTRC).

## "We had a new product and a lot of faith."

## We put both in Radio Times."

*Stephen Wilson, Technics Organ Division Manager.*

"In 1981 we took two colour pages, plus half-pages in black-and-white to list our dealers. The response was terrific. Then came 1982. And we found ourselves with our new memory-pack keyboard. This product, as the man who invented the wheel said, was revolutionary. We took a three-page colour ad in Radio Times in November. From then on every day was Christmas. In fact the result turned into a bit of a pain. We were cleaned out of our winter stock and most of our spring allocation. There we stood, thanks to Radio Times, in the middle of a world recession, with our organs going boom, boom, boom."

**Radio Times**

For further information, contact Head of Advertisement Department, BBC Publications, 35 Marylebone High Street, London W1M 4AA. Telephone: 01-580 5577. Source: NRS (ICNARS) July-December 1982.

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# Tebbit ridicules Labour plan to pay young people to stay at school

By Our Political Staff

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, yesterday dismissed with ridicule the Labour Party's plan to encourage young people aged between 16 and 17 to stay on in full-time education by paying them £25 a week.

That was among the schemes listed by Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour's education spokesman, at the party's London campaign press conference, which he said would bring hope to young people who were now leaving school in a mood of cynicism, despair and disillusionment.

Mr Kinnock said he recently saw some graffiti on the back of a lorry saying: "Vote for Maggie; retire at 16". He thought there could be no more accurate assessment of the effect of Tory policies.

Later, Mr Tebbit at the Conservative campaign press conference, picked on Mr Kinnock's £25 a week incentive to people to carry on at school.

"As I understand it, the Labour Party are going to finance this by withdrawing the child allowances, so that means that £6 or £7 a week is taken out of the mother's housekeeping."

"Then they tax the father on the value of £25 allowance to his child. So what Mr Kinnock is proposing, in essence, is that the mother gets less housekeeping, the father gets less money in his wage packet, so that the youngster should have more pocket money and be able to

strengthen family life by giving his mother some of it each week.

"That is a curious way of inspiring hope and helpfulness."

Mr Kinnock backed by Mr Roy Hattersley, produced figures showing the relentless increase in the number of young unemployed during the past four years, and told of the frustration felt by youngsters who left school full of hope and optimism, hoping to do well for themselves, their families and for society.

Labour would restore higher education places to their former levels, Mr Kinnock said. They would be for the qualified young people who had been denied places by the Government's expenditure cuts - 61,000 since 1980 - and for adults who needed, and could use, higher education facilities.

Labour would establish two-year student-traineeship to give every 16 and 17-year old school-leaver the modern skills required to meet present needs. "That would give time for thorough courses, leading to additional qualifications and a realistic mixture of education, training, work experience and career counselling," Mr Kinnock said.

"And in our 'Earning for Learning' scheme we shall make sure that every young person gets an income to help the family budget: £25 a week to

those in full-time education, and at least £30 a week for those on training schemes, a sum which will be re-negotiated annually by the trade unions to maintain its value."

Mr Neil Kinnock said that young people in work would have the right to training and educational leave, with full pay, so that they could be equipped with modern aptitudes. "Our training scheme will be pathway to work, and not a gangplank to despair," Mr Kinnock declared.

Mr Hattersley claimed that the Job Opportunities Programme as operated by the Tories, had meant that young people on a pittance of £25 a week had little chance of a job at the end of the year's training.

Mr Tebbit was full of optimism about the prospects of a successful launch of the Youth Training Scheme in mid-September. "Up to the middle of May, 90 per cent of the 460,000 places required had been identified," he said.

"Mode A places - where employers take on youngsters directly - have come forward very well. The target had been set at 300,000 and almost 95 per cent have been identified."

Support from industry had been outstanding Mr Tebbit said. He was confident that the party's pledge to have all school leavers in a job or a training scheme by Christmas would be kept.

# Falklands veteran embarrasses Thatcher

From Philip Webster Political Reporter, Epsom

The Falklands War, one of the prime factors behind Mrs Margaret Thatcher's personal popularity, caused her an embarrassing dilemma in Scotland yesterday.

Her trip to a weaving mill in Epsom, in the marginal Myny constituency in the Glasgow area, was dominated by a one-man protest from an unemployed Falklands veteran.

Mr Steven Sherrett, aged 34, a sergeant in the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards, stood outside the premises of James Johnston and Co. with a banner proclaiming: "Unemployed Falklands hero (the word here was crossed out) veteran requires job. Apply here. Give a job, Prime Minister."

He, rather than Mrs Thatcher, walked around the factory because the main focus of media attention. Mr Sherrett, who is married with three children, said that he had fought in the battle of Tumbledown Mountain and saw action throughout the campaign. He left the Army in April after 12 years' service.

Mr Sherrett told reporters: "I can't find a job. It is not for want of trying. I have applied for jobs as a social worker, sales rep, van driver and security guard. All I want to do is work. I am completely disillusioned."

Mrs Thatcher was faced with the dilemma of whether to talk to him and her aides conferred anxiously while she looked toward the mill. In the end, her staff took details from the man but she decided against speaking to him.

As she came out of the press conference before leaving the factory, she waved to the crowd where he was standing and said: "We are very late."

The previous evening the Prime Minister had received a hostile reception from demonstrators in a crowd of about 1,000 outside the Station Hotel in Inverness, where she had flown after her speech at a rally in Edinburgh. An egg was thrown which hit a journalist.

Yesterday she concentrated her brief visit on the marginal constituencies of Moray and Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber. The Tories hope to win the latter from Mr Russell Johnston, the Liberal. He had a majority of more than 4,000 at the last election, but new boundaries have removed Liberal Isle of Skye and added Tory Nairn.

In Moray, they will be defending Mr Alex Pollock's 1979 majority of 422 votes from a strong Scottish National Party challenge. The seat has had part of the ex-Conservative, Banfill, added and Mr Hamish Watt, the former SNP MP, is regarded as one of the SNP's best hopes.



# SNP is fighting for its life

From Ian Bradley, Glasgow

The Conservatives may look certain to win the election in England but it is equally certain that they will lose it in Scotland, just as they have in every general election since 1955.

Yet the majority of Labour MPs consistently returned north of the Borders are powerless to halt the country's decline. Therefore the only way to help Scotland is to "halt Thatcher at the border" by voting for the Nationalists.

That is the message which the Scottish National Party is trying to put across. It claims that only by playing the nationalist card can Scots make an impact on the government elected on June 9. But it is an argument which seems to be falling on deaf ears. The SNP stands at only around 10 per cent in the polls and the party seems destined to come a poor fourth in many seats.

Ten years ago the SNP was scoring over 50 per cent in some opinion polls and in the October 1974 election it won 11 seats. Although it lost all but two of those at the last election, it still scored a respectable 17.3 per cent of the vote in Scotland. This time the party looks in serious danger of being wiped

off the political map.

How has this come about at a time of unprecedented unemployment in Scotland, when nationalism might seem to have a strong appeal to a country which has consistently proved more resistant than any other in the United Kingdom to Mrs Thatcher's brand of Conservatism?

One reason is undoubtedly the failure of the last Labour Government devolution Bill in 1979. Mr Gordon Wilson, chairman of the SNP and one of the party's two surviving MPs in the last Parliament, admitted: "The issue had been running so strongly throughout the 1970s that it had really exhausted itself and it was impossible to keep the momentum going."

The other main reason for the Nationalists' loss of support is their own internal feuding. For the last few years the party has been locked in a bitter struggle between those who put Scottish independence first at all costs and a younger left-wing element who came into the party in the mid-1970s arguing that the first priority should be the pursuit of Socialism; only in that way, they said, could the SNP strike at Labour's heartland in West

# THE ISSUES RATING REFORM

## Clash over control of local cash

By David Walker Local government correspondent

None of the parties much likes the existing set-up of local council rates to judge by the manifesto promises.

There have been four years of concentrated political effort on the local government - two major Acts of Parliament, at least two abortive Bills and a heap of impassioned debates about local democracy and creeping centralization. But the next several parliamentary sessions are certain again to be concerned with municipal issues, whichever party forms the government after June 10.

Labour is promising more rates - why else restore to councils the ability to levy supplementary rates? It also proposes the abolition of the county councils (including, though this is politically inconvenient, the metropolitan counties).

The Alliance is promising no rates. Instead it wants councils to be able to levy income taxes and suggests no safeguards against a borough such as Islington having access to penal rates of taxation.

The Conservatives promise rates without municipal involvement. They trust MPs and civil servants to set the approved amounts. Alternatively, in London and the metropolitan areas, unelected boards (quangos, except the word is anathema) will exact rates.

Only for the Conservatives is saving public money the central problem in local government. Words such as "freedom" and "democracy", often repeated in the Alliance and Labour manifestos, do not appear in the paragraphs devoted to local government in the Conservative

### RATES

- Abolition of domestic rates promised by Conservatives autumn 1974
- Rates said to wait on general tax cuts, May 1979 manifesto
- Abolition not mentioned in current manifesto

### LOCAL SPENDING

- Measured in volume terms (making allowance for price inflation) councils' spending in 1983-84 is about 1 per cent above the level in Labour's last year, 1978-79.

pledge: instead there is a direct appeal to ratepayers' self-interest.

This focus is understandable given that during the past four years the Government has significantly failed to cut local government spending in real terms and presided over an increase (since 1979) of 77 per cent in the rates, compared with 60 per cent increase in prices.

This increase - such are the complexities of local government finance, unreformed despite claims to the contrary - is due in part to the Government's deliberate decision to reduce the amount of support grant.

If Mrs Thatcher is returned to Downing Street, the prospect for the next few years is for a direct and possibly bloody confrontation between the Department of the Environment and a small out vocal array of Labour city councils. Under Conservative manifesto proposals, the government would by law ordain the rate levy in Sheffield, Manchester, Hackney, Islington and the GLC (before its proposed abolition in 1990). But it is unlikely, Labour councilors say, that the radicals in power in these authorities will sit idly by while their municipal power is extinguished.

Tomorrow: Devolution

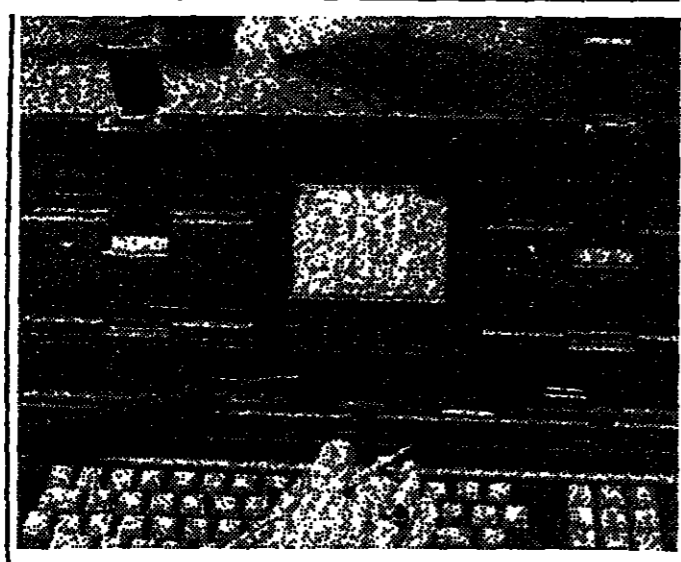
# Blunder by Foot retracted

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Mr Michael Foot yesterday retracted a pledge that National Insurance charges would not go up under Labour's programme for government.

He had said in an Independent Television News interview on Tuesday that the party was not proposing any such increase. Indeed, he added, Labour wanted in some respects to reduce such payments.

That section of the interview was not broadcast, but as *The Times* pointed out yesterday Labour is committed to the abolition of the upper ceiling of £220 a week on earnings-related National Insurance contributions. That would raise an extra £1,000m from employers and employees.



Inside information: Part of the Swingometer programme on display

# Downing Street expert in home computer market

By David Hewson

Campaign addicts who want to know the precise detail of the psephological advice offered to Mrs Thatcher before she called the election can now find it on a home computer programme being offered for sale to the public at £29.95 a copy.

The programme, written by Mr Christopher Monckton, aged 31, a member of the Downing Street Central Policy Unit, was originally produced to provide the unit with a convenient electoral ready reckoner.

The Tories' political opponents were unaware that Swingometer, as Mr Monckton has christened the programme, had origins so close to the centre of Downing Street until they were told by *The Times* yesterday.

But, given the current state of the opinion polls, it offers little comfort for Mrs Thatcher's opponents. On Swingometer's reckoning, yesterday's poll rating of 44 per cent of voters for the Conservatives, 32 per cent for Labour and 21 per cent for the Alliance, would have produced a Tory landslide of a 16-seat overall majority.

Even if the electorate was equally divided between all three parties, the seats would break down to 304 for Labour, 256 Tories, and 69 Alliance, leaving Labour 22 seats short of an overall majority.

Mr Monckton, a former newspaper leader writer, said that he came to write the programme because the unit needed a psephological guide and had an American-made Osborne portable computer to hand. The programme has also been adapted to run on the more basic Sinclair ZX81 home computer, though the results take a little longer to arrive.

One of the important lessons the unit learnt from the programme, Mr Monckton said, was that so long as the Tories maintained a five-point lead over Labour, and the Alliance vote did not start to approach 30 per cent, the Conservatives could count on an overall majority.

Swingometer is available for £29.95 a copy plus 50p postage from Impex Portable Software, Bedford House, Hockley Street, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire.

# Joseph softens school vouchers option

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, yesterday played down the possibility of a Conservative government introducing a voucher system to widen parental choice of schools within the state educational system.

The manifesto says that ways will be sought to widen school choice for parents, but the first edition of *Daily Voice*, issued as background for candidates on May 19, explained that vouchers would be an option.

That document said that vouchers would be worth "the cost of educating the child in a maintained school" and that they could "be used to pay for

# 12% support ecologists, poll finds

An opinion poll published yesterday showed that potential support for the Ecology Party was well above its target of 5 per cent of the vote.

The poll, conducted by Market and Opinion Research International was hailed as "a great encouragement" by the party even though the survey showed that 72 per cent of the electorate would not consider voting for it, against 12 per cent who would.

Jean Lambert, the party's agent in London, said it had evidence of growing support from disaffected Liberals.

# CONSTITUENCY PROFILE Cambridgeshire NE

## Familiar faces in fenland

of barley and oilseed rape now stretch to the low horizons and where pig farmers are in serious trouble.

He has discounted public meetings in favour of a "road show" in a brightly-decorated caravan, from which young helpers descend to knock on doors and invite people to meet the candidate. The "community" politics of Mr Freud are dismissed as "parish pump".

Next to the overriding issues of unemployment and defence comes that of the standing of the leader herself. Mr Geoffrey Harper, Mr Duval's agent and a recent recruit from Manchester, concedes that love is too strong a word but that she commands respect, albeit often grudging. "She came here in March and did a walkabout in Chatteris, and it was a great success."

Covering some 450 square miles, the constituency is one of the largest in England. Boundary changes have segregated it from its ancient diocese and incorporated three wards from the expanding town of Peterborough in the far north-west.

Mr Ron Harris, the Labour candidate, hopes that the changes will help to bolster a vote which in 1979 fell perilously close to the lost deposit mark. He is aware that many

1981 % Own Occ	63
1981 % Pop aged 16-24	20.5
1981 % Black/Asian	0.6
1981 % Mid Cl	40
1981 % Prof Man	15
1982 % Electorate	70,000
1979 BBC/ITN national result	L maj 1,400

Key: % Owner Occ: proportion owning their own homes; % Pop aged 16-24: proportion of total population; % Black/Asian: proportion from New Commonwealth or Pakistan; % Mid Cl: proportion of non-manual workers; % Prof Man: Professionals, higher managers, and independent business; BBC/ITN national result: indication of what result would have been in 1979 in new boundary constituencies by joint BBC/ITN study team.

# CONSTITUENCY PROFILE Roxburgh and Berwick

## Liberal hopes ride high

steel vote in Roxburgh. He is campaigning hard on local issues like rural depopulation and lack of industrial development, which he blames on the present government's removal of assisted area status from the Borders Region last year.

Modesty, Mr Kirkwood says, that the result of the election will be too close to call. He cites a BBC/ITN survey which predicted a majority of just 18 votes for the Conservatives and says that he is aiming to convert one Tory a day for 21 days of the campaign to be sure of getting in.

Mr Iain Sproat, the Conservative candidate, who is fighting much more on national issues, is more openly confident of success. He predicts a majority of 3,000 on the basis of local government results.

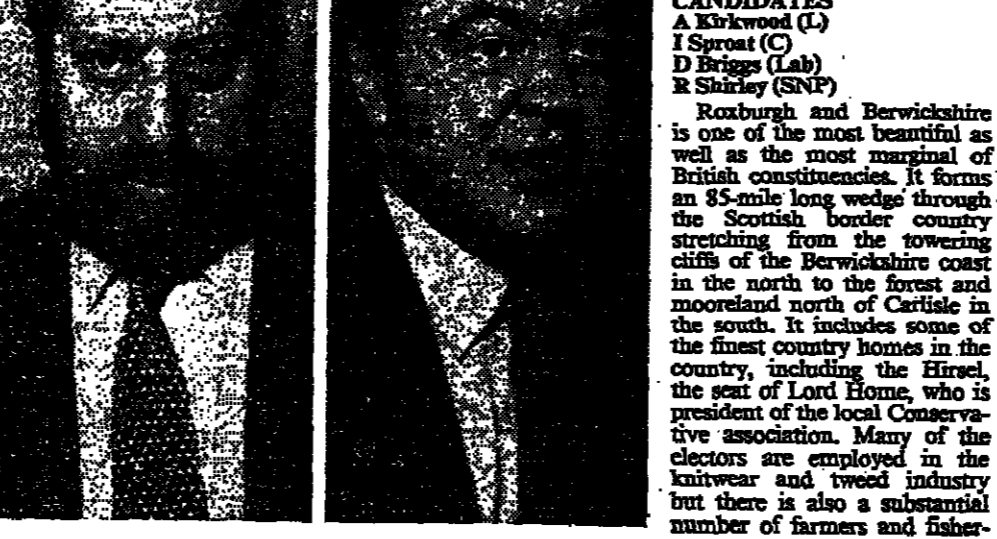
Mr Sproat, for the last 12 years MP for Aberdeen South, says that he came south to fight the new Borders seat because it is the area in which he was brought up.

The intervention of a Scottish Nationalist Party candidate, Mr Robert Shirley, a 55-year-old lecturer in finance in Edinburgh, seems unlikely to have much impact on the result.

He is clearly hoping to pick up most of the considerable

erstwhile Labour voters have defected to the Liberals, but is wise enough not to use that condescending "politician's" phrase about "returning to the fold" as though the electorate were really no more than sheep.

Mr Freud senses the only danger this time to be complacency by his supporters. His



Mr Freud (left): Little doubt about popularity. Mr Sproat: Openly confident of success

But that was all long ago. If a few people voted for him then because he was one of those funny London chaps on the telly, he has since patiently succeeded by making himself familiar in person to his constituents.

Of his popularity there can be little doubt. All across the flat fenland of what has now been unromantically rechristened Cambridgeshire North-East the bright orange posters glow in hundreds of village front gardens.

People open their front doors to him (he asked me to choose them at random to prove that it is not pre-arranged) and greet him with broad smiles of recognition. He claims to know 30,000 of his constituents.

At an early evening meeting at a club for the elderly and disabled in Wisbech, he pre-

Two thirds of the new constituency comes from David Steel's old seat of Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles and one third from the former Berwick and East Lothian constituency which was held with a slender majority for Labour at the dissolution by John Home Robertson.

The Liberals, whose candidate Archy Kirkwood, a former personal assistant to Mr Steel, has high hopes of gaining the

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صلى الله عليه وسلم

Foot's future
Foot reluctant to dispel doubt over future as leader

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Belief that Mr Michael Foot may not long remain as leader of the Labour Party...



Tory view: Sir Keith Joseph, Dr Rhodes Boyson and Mr Cecil Parkinson answering journalists' questions yesterday.



The 17-hour poll show on ITN

By Kenneth Gosling

The independent television network is to spend £1.25m on its election night coverage...

Healey: Civil order in danger

Labour slide

From John Winder, Stafford

Law and order in Britain could break down if unemployment went on increasing...

Thatcher warning on SDP vote

From Philip Webster, Political Reporter, Bolton

The Prime Minister yesterday continued to use the upswing in support for the Liberal/SDP Alliance...



Geoffrey Smith COMMENT

On Tuesday evening I went to hear Mr Tony Benn speak in a crowded school room...

Some Tories want Benn to survive

They do not want the electorate to shoot the fox. A Tony Benn who looked poised to take over the Labour Party...

Kinnock demands Belgrano inquiry

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday accused Mr Neil Kinnock...

He is the first Labour front-bencher to lend his support to this view...

The Belgrano goes down - taking a hope of peace with her, the Government's critics claim.

Heath concern over summit

Mr Edward Heath, the former Conservative Prime Minister, yesterday expressed his disappointment at the outcome of the Williamsburg summit...

Bishop favours disarmament

Britain should choose the right moment to make a "generous gesture" to get the process of nuclear disarmament moving...

SDP man to rejoin Labour

Mr Michael Barnes, Labour MP for Brentford and Chiswick from 1966 and 1974 and a founder member of the Social Democratic Party, has resigned from the SDP and applied to rejoin his local party in Kensington...

Thatcher callous about jobless, Foot says

From David Felton, Stevenage

Mr Michael Foot last night accused the Prime Minister of being callous and indifferent in her television appearance earlier this week when she disputed Labour's figures...

Compare the records, says Callaghan

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Mr James Callaghan, the former Labour Prime Minister, last night invited doubting voters to compare the record of his administration to that of Mrs Thatcher's...

Stark election choice in Ulster, bishop says

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The electorate in Northern Ireland faces a stark choice between a balance of terror had between a balance of terror had between a balance of terror had...

Varley awards 'world unemployment cup'

By Barbara Day Mr Eric Varley, Labour's chief employment spokesman: "Our unemployment rate has gone up much higher than any other major industrial country..."

Speeches

- CONSERVATIVE
Ayrshire, George Robertson, Monks Road, Glasgow
Lancashire, George Robertson, Monks Road, Glasgow
... (list continues)

TABLE OF POLLS

Table showing opinion polls with columns for Poll, Sample Size, C, Lab, Alliance, Others, and C lead.

Boyish sense of enthusiasm

At the end of the meeting quite a number of the audience crowded around him, to his evident delight...

Liberal choice

Mr Jo Grimond, the former Liberal leader, yesterday urged people not to vote for a Liberal candidate...

Handwritten note: مكتوب من الأصل



# Mozambique claims that South Africa sent in pilotless spyplane

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The Mozambique authorities claim that the mystery aircraft which was shot down over Maputo and crashed into the sea on Monday was a pilotless, remote-controlled reconnaissance machine.

A spokesman for the South Africa Air Force (SAAF), Colonel Julius Kriel, said yesterday, however, that the "drone" aircraft did not belong to the SAAF, and he repeated an earlier denial that any SAAF aircraft had entered Mozambique airspace on Monday.

The Pretoria headquarters of the South African Defence Force (SADF), which embraces the Army, Navy and Air Force, was unable to comment on suggestions that the spyplane could have been sent on its mission by army intelligence.

Military analysts here say that Mozambique descriptions

of the aircraft suggest that it closely resembles the remote-controlled mini-aircraft used extensively by the Israelis on spying missions over Lebanon. South Africa has close relations with Israel, and has imported or adapted various items of Israeli military technology. According to Mozambique, wreckage retrieved from Maputo Bay showed that the propeller-driven aircraft was equipped with "optical instruments including a camera with a zoom lens of French manufacture". Inspection by local reporters disclosed the marking "2011" on the fuselage and the instruction "No hand hold" written in English.

Mozambique says the aircraft was monitored in flight from Moamba, about 30 miles north-west of Maputo and close to the border with Transvaal, to

the Maputo suburbs of Machava and Catembe. An artillery unit opened fire only after the aircraft had repeatedly refused to identify itself to Maputo airport ground control.

Mozambique also claims that a second aircraft, following about eight miles behind the "drone", turned south and fled back to South Africa when the anti-aircraft battery opened up. It was suggested in Maputo yesterday that this aircraft could have been controlling the "drone".

If the aircraft was from South Africa, a possible explanation is that it was seeking to obtain photographic evidence to support South Africa's claim to have destroyed camps and bases of the underground African National Congress (ANC) in and near the Maputo suburb of Matola in an air raid on May 23.



Last tribute: Family mourners follow the gun carriage bearing Pelshe's ashes

## Chernenko appears at Pelshe funeral

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr Konstantin Chernenko, Mr Yuri Andropov's one-time rival for the party leadership, appeared in public yesterday for the funeral of Mr Arvid Pelshe in Red Square, but looked unwell compared to Mr Andropov.

A Central Committee plenum is to be held in two weeks, and some personnel changes are expected. Both Mr Chernenko and Mr Andropov have had bouts of illness in recent months. Mr Chernenko, who is 71, dropped out of public life for two months but reappeared

to attend Mr Pelshe's lying in state at the Hall of Columns in Moscow on Tuesday.

Mr Andropov, who is 68, appeared much fitter than usual as he walked to the top of the Lenin Mausoleum for the funeral speeches. He will be 69 on June 15, which falls between the Central Committee plenum and the Supreme Soviet session on June 16, which is expected to resolve the question of the vacant presidency.

Mr Pelshe, who died last Sunday at the age of 84, was

the Lithuanian's oldest member. An urn containing his ashes was placed in the Kremlin wall, the traditional resting place of senior Soviet figures. As usual on such occasions, the centre of Moscow was sealed off by the police, and selected mourners were transported in buses.

Speeches praised Mr Pelshe's role in the Bolshevik revolution of 1917 and in his native Latvia after the Second World War, where he was Communist Party leader after the Soviet annexation of the Baltic states.

## Nazis blew up church with people inside

Berlin (Reuters)—The only woman to survive a Nazi massacre in a French village told yesterday how SS troops herded women and children into a local church and then blasted the building with explosives.

The written evidence of Mme Marguerite Rouffanche, who was age 47 at the time was read out at the East Berlin trial of Herr Heinz Berth, a former SS officer who has admitted taking part in the killing of 642 people at the village of Oradour-sur-Glane in June 1944.

Mme Rouffanche spoke of heart-rending screams from the women and children as they were separated from their menfolk and forced into the church.

After surviving the blast, she said: "I fled to the sacristy, then they fired through the sacristy windows. I pretended to be dead. The Germans appeared in the sacristy and fired and I was lucky not to be hit."

The troops later set fire to the church and she fled through a window by the altar. In escaping she was hit by machine gun fire and she still cannot use her right arm and right leg. Two daughters and a grandson who were with her in the church were killed.

M Jean-Pierre Elssesser, who was then aged 18, said he saw the explosion at the church and that as the soldiers set fire to it, screams were coming from inside.

## US to pay more for Philippines bases

From David Watts, Singapore

The United States will retain its military bases in the Philippines under a new agreement signed yesterday which almost doubles the amount Washington pays for the facilities.

The new agreement, covering Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base, will cost the United States \$900m (£562m) in grants and loans for the five years from October 1984 compared to the present figure of \$500m.

For the first time, some of the money will be used to alleviate the undesirable social costs of the bases, the biggest US military installations outside the continental United States.

The financial terms of the pact are also more favourable to Manila than the 1979 agreement. The US has also promised consultations before nuclear weapons are deployed.

Formal discussions were only expected to open yesterday and it appears that the view of Mr Jose Diokno, an opposition lawyer, that the talks were kept quiet to forestall public debate is correct.

Critics of the agreement say that far from guaranteeing the security of the Philippines, all it guarantees is that the republic will be a prime target for the Soviet Union's SS20 missiles aimed at what are important strategic bases of world-wide importance for the US.

## Nujoma vows to win by bullet or ballot

From Zoriana Pysarskiwsky, New York

Mr Sam Nujoma, the president of the South-West Africa people's organization (SWAPO) has hailed the unanimous decision by the UN Security Council condemning South Africa's continued occupation of Namibia and seeking renewed commitment to an independence settlement.

But in keeping with the two-track policy both Swapo and South Africa have pursued in six years of negotiations, he vowed to continue an armed struggle which would be won "through the bullet or the ballot".

As the seven days of sometimes introspective, sometimes mercurial debate drew to a close yesterday, it became evident that the straightforward posture of South Africa belied the contradictions and ambiguities of black Africa's changing relationship with the country that represents all it detests.

Black Africa's fears of South Africa's economic and military dominance have grown in the past two years since Namibia was last debated to the point where they have managed to seep through the usually rarified and removed world of diplomacy.

None was so forthright in voicing realities as Mr Joaquim Chissand, the Mozambique foreign minister, who said that the dialogue initiated by his Government with South Africa was intended to activate the norms of "peaceful coexistence and mutual respect" in the

interest of international peace and security.

The debate, at first restricted, must now only be a source of encouragement to the United States, which has been promoting rapprochement in southern Africa. The recent violence in the region has only reinforced the need to abate tensions as Mozambique and South Africa prepared for further bilateral talks (as did Lesotho and South Africa) on curbing the African National Congress guerrillas.

It was certain that Mr Nujoma's pledge to maintain the liberation struggle would be met with trepidation by Angola which already has South African troops in the southern parts of its territory.

The threat of sanctions, usually a favourite diplomatic tool of the Africans, was abandoned in place of a draft resolution emphasizing negotiating as the path to Namibian independence.

Somewhat dismayed by the fruitless results of the five-power Western Contact Group (the United States, Britain, Canada, France and West Germany) in finding a solution, the Africans have decided to give Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the Secretary General, a more forceful role to play.

The resolution mandates him to consult the parties on a proposed ceasefire to secure the speedy implementation of the 178 council resolution setting out Namibia's transition to independence under United Nations supervision.

## 8,463 given amnesty in Kenya

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

President Daniel arap Moi yesterday freed 8,463 prisoners - including 22 detainees, mostly members of the Kenya Air Force held after an abortive coup attempt last August - to mark the twentieth anniversary of the day in 1963 when Kenya achieved internal self-government in preparation for independence.

He announced his amnesty after watching a march-past by the Kenyan armed forces, and a fly-past by jet fighters.

Most of those released are short-term prisoners. Officials could give no details of the detainees now being freed, and it was not known whether they included any of the 12 detainees, including several university lecturers, whose names had previously been made known.

## Evren threat to delay Turkish poll

Ankara (Reuters) - President Kenan Evren said yesterday that the Turkish general election set for November 6 could be postponed "if it is deemed necessary".

He defended Tuesday's decree by the military government ordering the detention of 16 politicians and the dissolution of a new political party, one of five formed since a ban on political activity was lifted in April. Harsher measures would be taken if necessary, he told a large crowd in the central Turkish city of Conum.

General Evren attacked banned politicians who, he said, were scheming to gain a stake in new political parties.

He said the newly-formed rightist Grand Turkey Party which was suppressed on Tuesday, was founded by people who would not accept being pushed from the seat of power.

## Canberra urged to seek drug man's extradition

From Tony Duboulin, Melbourne

The royal commission into drug trafficking has recommended to the Australian Government that it should consider asking the British Government to allow the temporary extradition of Terence John Clark, the head of the "Mr Asia" drug syndicate who is serving life imprisonment in Britain for murder, so that he can stand trial in Australia.

He was convicted in Britain of the murder of a former drug ring associate, Christopher Martin Johnstone.

The report of the royal commission, headed by Mr Justice Stewart, was released on Tuesday by the Australian and New Zealand governments. It contains 900 pages.

The commission says that the Mr Asia drug syndicate was the biggest in Australia at the time and that Clark had control of an empire worth up to \$A96m (about £56m). It found that he had murdered a number of people in New South Wales.

The commission found that Clark and his associates illegally distributed large quantities of heroin in Australia, using mostly female couriers. He and his couriers used Australian

passports, mostly obtained unlawfully, to enter and leave the country. They used a Sydney law clerk to obtain confidential information about themselves from law enforcement agencies including the Sydney office of the Federal Narcotics Bureau.

A significant proportion of the money obtained by the syndicate was unlawfully taken out of Australia by couriers using the facilities of international financial institutions, the Royal Commission found.

The royal commission is heavily critical of many aspects of law enforcement in Australia. The Narcotics Bureau is accused of not cooperating with police enquiries into Clark's possible sources of information in the Bureau. There was a deep resentment on the part of Narcotics Bureau officers that they should be questioned by anybody.

"There is no doubt that there was a closing of the ranks in an attempt to protect members of their own groups," the report says.

Other Australian police forces are criticized in a section of the report which has not been released.

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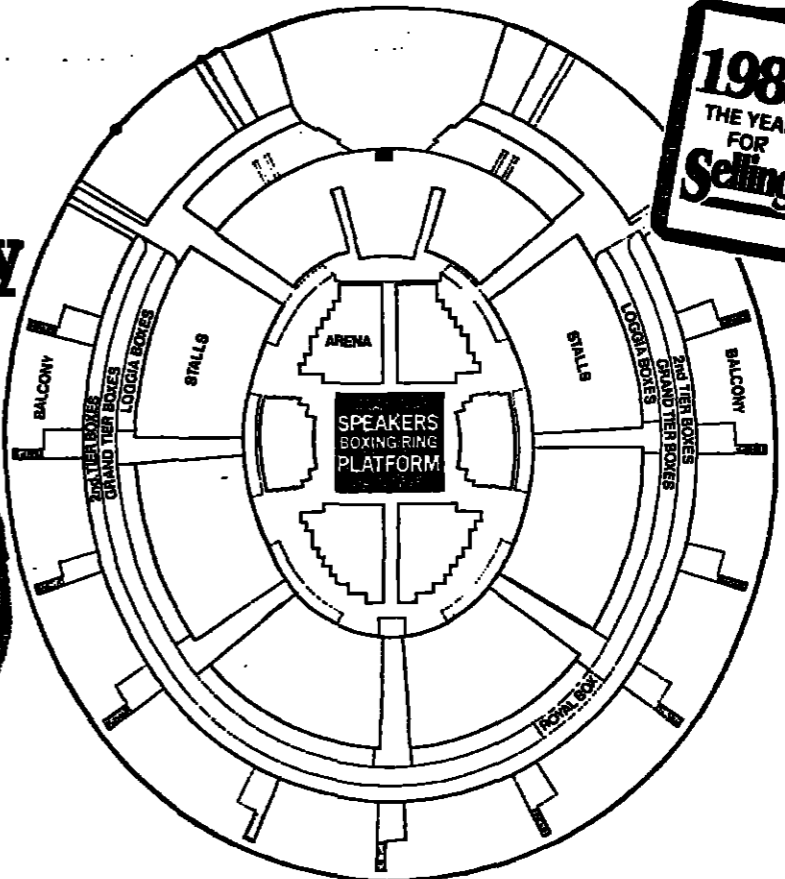
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55 من الأصل

# Jaruzelski pays hardline price for party unity

With left stage management, General Jaruzelski appears to have steered his hold on the leadership of the Polish Communist Party through months of bitter fighting between his hardline supporters and his more moderate opponents who have sought to bring all the party's factions into a single line.

But the general's victory was far from complete. Tuesday's gathering showed that the party's hardliners still have a strong voice in the Central Committee, the body that will meet in July to elect the new Politburo.

Both the hardliners and the moderates are driven by the same goal: to bring about a return to the liberalisation of the economy and the political system.

The general's hardline supporters bought party unity at the price of some concessions to hardliners, but they are not prepared to make any more concessions.

One potential source of

# 'Socialist workers' town' pinning its hopes on the Pope



The idea of 'Nowa Huta' was a completely new one after Lenin, as the workers' town was built from scratch.

The town was built in the 1950s and has since expanded to include some 80 square kilometers, with more than 200,000 inhabitants - yet the authorities resisted for as long as possible the building of a church there.

The Pope, as the Metropolitan of Cracow, fought hard for the first one, known as the 'ark', and fought too for

rest himself on his return from the Williamsburg summit.

On his return, Herr Genscher announced that he had reached a satisfactory solution, and that there were hopes that the Romanians would lift or reduce the tax of the equivalent of between £1,500 and £10,000, payable in Western currency, which is levied on the 16,000 Romanians applying to emigrate to Germany each year.

It remains West Germany is understood to be ready to increase the amount it pays Romania for each German emigrant to help with technical help and to assist Romania with its foreign debt.

Other aspects of foreign policy were also expected to be discussed at yesterday's coalition summit, especially Africa.

Herr Strauss has been seen in favour of the recent visit to Africa as well as the visit to the Middle East and Central America.

Changes in these areas were agreed at the summit and there appears to be little change yet to the approach of Herr Genscher. Relations with East Germany, which led to a noisy dispute between the two, and also a dispute with the Soviet Union, are on the agenda.

Herr Genscher is expected to be in Bonn for talks with the Soviet Foreign Minister.

Herr Genscher let it be known that the measures of the negotiations with Romania imposing a cooperation tax for ethnic Germans living in the Federal Republic are premature and that the talks should be postponed.

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## Bonn partners try to end squabbling

Leaders of the three West German coalition parties met yesterday in the first of what is planned as regular consultations to coordinate policy and settle differences behind the scenes.

The meeting came at a time when squabbling between the parties threatens to undermine the credibility of Dr Helmut Kohl's Government, which has led to angry reproaches at last week's Christian Democratic Party conference.

The Chancellor had talks with Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister and leader of the Free Democrats, and Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the Prime Minister of Bavaria and leader of the Christian Social Union.

In the past few days another dispute has broken out between Herr Genscher and Herr Strauss over the recent visit to Africa as well as the visit to the Middle East and Central America.

Changes in these areas were agreed at the summit and there appears to be little change yet to the approach of Herr Genscher. Relations with East Germany, which led to a noisy dispute between the two, and also a dispute with the Soviet Union, are on the agenda.

Herr Genscher is expected to be in Bonn for talks with the Soviet Foreign Minister.

Herr Genscher let it be known that the measures of the negotiations with Romania imposing a cooperation tax for ethnic Germans living in the Federal Republic are premature and that the talks should be postponed.

## Ex-Mongolian support Seoul fast

Seoul (Reuters) - Thirty-nine former opposition politicians said yesterday they would join a united front to support the return of democracy to South Korea.

The front would include banned politicians, civil rights and religious groups, workers and students, he said.

House arrest: Four leading South Korean dissidents, the Rev Moon Il Hwan, Mr Han Sok Hui, Mr Ye Chun Ho and Professor Lee Mun Yong were put under house arrest after being freed from police detention last night.

Western travellers last week quoted Chinese residents of Mongolia as saying about 8,000 of them had refused to move from the capital, Ulan Bator, into remote parts of the country.

The travellers quoted the Chinese as saying the ultimatum was delivered in March and they would all have left by August.

More than 100 Chinese joined the Trans-Siberian express in Ulan Bator and most of their possessions were confiscated by Mongolian officials at the Chinese border, the travellers said.

East European sources quoted Mongolian officials as saying Mongolians were also being encouraged to settle outside Ulan Bator.

## Sihanouk threat to quit

Peking (AFP) - Prince Norodom Sihanouk threatened yesterday to quit the anti-Vietnamese Cambodian coalition he has headed for a year after a new dispute with his non-communist resistance partner, Mr Son Sann.

In an interview with several foreign journalists here, the 60-year-old coalition president reacted bitterly to Mr Sann's recent remarks in Australia criticizing him and the third coalition partner.

"I plan to quit the coalition. I am going to watch what Son Sann and his followers are going to do," he said. "If it appears that they are continuing to attack me, then in a few weeks or months I will resign."

But Prince Sihanouk added that he did not want to give a diplomatic advantage to Vietnam and its Soviet backers.

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# THE ARTS

"Coming to London always makes me feel like a Jew who has finally got to Israel": thus A. R. Gurney Jr. the American dramatist whose *The Dining Room* opens at Greenwich next Thursday, and perhaps we had better start with a declaration of considerable interest though not, I hasten to add, mine alone. When *The Dining Room* first opened off-Broadway just over a year ago, Irving Wardle in these columns called it "something remarkable" and we both expressed in print the fervent hope that it would be seen over here before too long. The Greenwich director who has now realized that hope, Alan Strachan, also has a considerable interest in Gurney going back over 10 years to when, at the Mermaid, he first staged a play of his called *Children* with Constance Cummings, who a couple of years ago also appeared at Greenwich in yet another Gurney play called *The Golden Age*.

Yet despite that chain of Gurney productions in this country over the last decade, he remains curiously unknown as a dramatist, an experience he has become somewhat acclimatized to also in his native America where it is only in the last 12 months that he has become truly established as a successful playwright. He now has two plays running simultaneously off-Broadway and productions of *The Dining Room* running also in 20 other American cities.

once provided America with its ruling classes. In his lifetime, as he is the first to remark, WASP power has all but disappeared even on Wall Street and within the Ivy Halls of East Coast colleges: Reagan's America is an America of Californian power and money, and the WASP are now personified most often as the shady lawyers or doctors in American television crime series.

Like Chekhov therefore (and it is an analogy I promise to push to further, strong though I happen to think it is) Gurney writes from within of a society already in decline. His plays are elegant, well-made laments for a lost world of wealth and manners and Eastern-seaboard living, and *The Dining Room* itself stands as a symbol for the collapse of the family life that he locates within its walls.

Where Philip Barry and S. N. Behrman, perhaps Gurney's most direct antecedents in the American theatre of the 1930s, wrote in plays like *Philadelphia Story* of ambitious outsiders trying to break into the old American families, Gurney writes about younger members of those very families trying to break out into the real world, a world that he

At 52 A. R. Gurney Jr. has only just become an established and successful playwright in his native America. His play *The Dining Room* opens in London

Interview by Sheridan Morley

## A WASP finds his sting

himself reserves the right to dislike. "My father was in real estate in Buffalo, we always considered ourselves East Coast, even though West of the Hudson and there was a strong theatre tradition in the town, because Katharine Cornell had come from there and grandmothers always took us to her first nights. Then the Korean War came, and after three years in the navy I used my GI Bill of Rights money to pay my way through the Yale School of Drama, since my family deeply disapproved of my having anything to do with the theatre.

"But I always knew it was what I loved: I'd been at Williams College with Steve Sondheim and I started writing musicals there and by the time I left Yale I'd completed a musical called *Love in Buffalo*, done a version of *Tom Sawyer* with songs, published two plays, sold another for television and was at 26 totally and utterly written out.

"So I decided to become a teacher, which is how I have been earning my living ever since: first I taught Latin in a county day school, and then somebody offered me a professorship in English at the Massachusetts Institute of Tech-

nology where I have been these last 20 years. The wonderful thing about that was unlike the day school I didn't have to supervise lunch or take naps, so I had a whole lot of spare time and I was able to start writing again.

"Lately more and more of my time has been spent writing plays, and less and less of it teaching, but luckily MIT is full of scientists who keep flying off to world conferences, so in all fairness they have to give me equal time off.

"I've been very lucky in that lately there does seem to have been a faint swing back towards the well-made play, though a lot of critics still hate my work. They seem to think that because I write about old rich families, in doing so I must somehow also approve of them which doesn't follow at all: they just happen to be what I know about, and in that sense *The Dining Room* is I suppose an autobiography.

"But it's about a lot of other families in that Boston area as well: people forget that just because most Americans are still striving to be upwardly mobile doesn't mean you don't also find a few older ones who are downwardly mobile. In New York they think I must be English,

even though I'd never been here until 1974.

"Yet I've always felt extremely at home here: the English obsession with manners and behaviour, their fascination with the past and deep intolerance of children all remind me so much of my own family. But WASPs are still pretty much hated by most Americans, and when I wrote *The Dining Room* even my own was reluctant to produce it in New York. It's myself, to Parvati's Horizons and they agreed to give it one-night readings, and so their management a lot of actors seemed to want to be in it.

"I'm not at all sure what will happen to *The Dining Room* over here: Strachan has a marvellous cast at Greenwich, but I have a feeling that what the English most like about American drama are the cops and robbers.

"I don't write about rebels or dissenters or gangsters; I write about my own people, the Americans you see haunting Harrods in midsummer, the Americans who call themselves Anglos now because WASP has become such a pejorative term.

With the look of the genial American college professor that he of course is, and a daughter so anglophile she even works in New York for the National Westminster Bank, Gurney may not be everyone's idea of the typical modern Broadway dramatist: I happen to believe that he is most elegant and accomplished theatrical writer to have come out of America since the war.



## Theatre

### Upstaged by the Fool

#### King Lear

##### Barbican

From the notices of Adrian Noble's production on its first appearance at Stratford last year, it appeared that the Fool occupies as big a place in *King Lear* as does Iago in *Othello*. No doubt, the Barbican public will receive the same impression. If you dress the Fool in a Groat costume, complete with violin case, and plunge him anachronistically into a fairy tale court to perform routines from the old Edward Road M.C., it is not surprising that he sticks in the memory at the expense of the more immediately Shakespearean elements. If, moreover, he is played by a comic actor as dazzling as Anthony Sher, who can do everything from George Formby ukelele numbers to playing a ventriloquist's doll, and underscore the fun with spine-chilling intimations of catastrophe, then it is quite difficult to attend to anything else on the stage.

However, the production's dedication to comic routines does not end in this one attention-grabbing piece of casting. It also crops up among the other characters. Kent (Malcolm Storry) quarts with Chris Hunter's Oswald and heaps the insults on him in loving slow motion, while the victim stands there smothered in verbal cream pies. Lear meets the blind Gloucester and engages him in cross-talk on the subject of his recent affliction, until the two of them are rocking with helpless mirth.

#### Sister Streams

##### Riverside

Well, I am sure it seemed exciting in rehearsal. Dorothy Wordsworth's journals, behind which so much is unsaid and indeed unconscious, are not only a treasure-house of poetic and precise nature observation, but a dim and tantalizing reflection of her deepest relationship. The temptation to seek the springs of that relationship - not to mention those involving William's wife Mary (Michelle Wedel), and her sister Sara's with Coleridge and de Quincey, is irresistible.

Buck of Sighs, the company who created this piece and are transferring it to the Old Red Lion in Islington next week and their director, Simon Usher, find those springs in childhood. Experienced fringe-goers will instantly visualize actors writhing on the ground with the wails of the newborn; quite correct.

You soon become glad that the company numbers only six, because so many actions,



Dazzling Anthony Sher

the mock-trial of Goneril in the hovel, with the avalanche of deranged evidence converging on the empty chair in which Gloucester is shortly to be suffering the vengeance of Regan's hair-pin. For the Fool scenes themselves, Bob Crowley's stage becomes a bare music-hall platform, with Michael Gambon's Lear playing a fumbling straight-man to the red-nosed pro from whom he is delighted to learn comic techniques however deaf he may be to the message they carry. And, as in the old theatres, there is a neat spot to project their huge misshapen shadows on the back wall. Marvellous.

Where clowning can illuminate the tragedy, the production excels. But I think Mr Noble has miscalculated in taking Lear's "great stage of fools" as a line that can embrace the whole play. For one thing, it predisposes the audience to look for jokes, and several arrive, unintended, from the lips of David Bradley's Albany. Last night, even the stage joined in the fun, when the electric safety

curtain opened on Jonathan Hyde's seraphically soliloquizing Edgar and promptly closed again.

Outside its comic zone, the production is oblique and muted. Sara Kestelman and Jeremy Agutter make a vigorous defiance of Goneril and Regan as dutiful daughters, much put upon but still ready for a parental hug, until they go overboard without warning into black villainy. With a natural Edmund, Jonathan Hyde, in the company, the part goes to Clive Wood who deprives it of satanic wit and sexuality in favour of brainish power.

The development of Mr Gambon's Lear is reflected in its costume; beginning in mythically jewelled robes and ending in hospital pyjamas.

His stages of growth are projected with the physical precision of a man slowly walking a high wire, and with a deliberate avoidance of direct paths and high passion. Often, he sounds like a doctor, impassively inquiring into the cause of hard hearts as he deigns a pillow with his knife. Typically, when he gets to the last "never", he brusquely throws it away. This is all admirable, but it supplies no solution for the great curses of the storm scene, which also defeats the inexcusably self-indulgent Ilona Sekacz: one amazing burst from her synthesized infernal chorus, and the storm music subsides into piffing percussion while Lear addresses the heavens from the top of a conveniently placed flag-pole.

#### Irving Wardle

including learning to walk, pass through each actor in turn. They also have a wearing habit of repetition.

#### Anthony Masters

### Paris opera season

Calling the Paris Opera a "massive elephant", over which he intended to exercise his authority clearly, the new general administrator, Italy's Massimo Bogianckino, aged 60, has announced the programme for the coming season.

It will open on September 28 with Luca Ronconi's new production in French of *Mozart en Egypte* by Rossini. Other new productions will include Messiaen's *Saint Francis of Assisi*, directed by Seiji Ozawa (November 28); Verdi's *Jerusalem* (end of February); *Iphigenie en Taureide* by Gluck (end May, beginning June); and Wagner's *Tannhauser*, in a production by the Hungarian film director Istvan Szabo (end June).

Also included in the season are Mozart's *Die entfuhrung* (end of January), co-produced with La Scala of Milan; Puccini's *Madame Butterfly* (October), beginning of November; and Massenet's *Werther* (April and July). Productions in the Salle Favert will include a French version of Henze's *La chatte anglaise*, *Dido and Aeneas*, by Purcell, *La Demoiselle Elue*, by Debussy, and *Il Matrimonio Segreto* by Cimarosa.

The ballet programme includes the return to the repertoire of Raymondina on November 5; Marco Spada, revived by Pierre Lacotte (end of March, beginning of April), and Rudolph Nureyev's *The Tempest* in March.

Roger Beardwood

#### LSSO/Fletcher

##### St John's

Wildly, wonderfully ambitious as ever, the Leicestershire School Symphony Orchestra arrived in London on Tuesday night with one of the most complicated and variously challenging of orchestral scores, Ives's Fourth Symphony, and preceded it not with something safe and simple, but with three pieces specially written for the occasion.

The first was also Ivesian: an amplification of his setting of lines from Browning's *Paracelus*, done up, for large orchestra by Douglas Young.

#### Alice in Wonderland

##### Palace, Manchester

The title *Alice in Wonderland* probably guarantees a ballet good audiences, even if it is less well done than this new production by Northern Ballet Theatre. On the other hand, it is never going to be able to rise much above the level of a series of antics for Lewis Carroll as instantly recognizable, some of them from *Through the Looking Glass*, but offer little chance of development.

So the ballet remains a series of numbers and depends for its success on how well the lay figures are given an illusion of life. Rosemary Helliwell, an English member of the Stuttgart Ballet, has made a very presentable job of it. This is her first production for an English company, although her list of credits in Germany and elsewhere is impressive for a woman still young.

She has tried, but without much effect, to give the work some emotional depth by introducing Lewis Carroll as a character in his own person for a prologue and epilogue, and between whiles appearing as a dodo, caterpillar, a shy deer, (in which guise he has a duet with Alice) and the knave accused of stealing cards. Alice, of course, comes to his aid.

Lynn Jezzard as Alice has to speed such of her time sitting and staring. She does it sweetly and attentively, and rises enthusiastically to every opportunity of real dancing. David Needham gives Lewis Carroll a sad, wistful seriousness; no hint of anything untoward in his duets.

Oliver Muñoz, as the White

#### Concert

The other two pieces were exciting and excitingly played. Coming within a year of his first Sinfonia in the last Proms, Nigel Osborne's Sinfonia No 2 found him concerned with similar issues: wandering, wistful melody in the strings, an eruption of reggae-influenced dynamism, at once sleek and savage, and a search for reconciliation.

This time, however, the images are bolder, partly no doubt, because the work was conceived for young players, but partly too, so it would seem, because Osborne wants to confront his material with less provocation.

The West Indian music is altogether franker and now, instead of being clasped in a

#### Dance



Lynn Jezzard and David Needham in their duet

Rabbit, has the most prominent of the smaller roles, and fills it nicely. Sue Khan Chiang makes one with the Cheshire Cat had more to do, and quite a few other dancers catch the eye in tiny parts.

The score by Joseph Horowitz is an adaptation (not very drastic, so far as distant memory serves) of one he wrote for Festival Ballet in the 1950s. It is pastiche music, but ably done and enjoyable enough. Elisabeth Dalton is the designer. Her costumes, distantly and

#### Television

Those who thought to escape the election and hide awhile in a corridor of history in BBC2's educational *Timeswatch* last night may have thought that their micro-chips or whatever were being subtly and remotely controlled by Conservative Central Office when, at the outset, Mrs Thatcher appeared talking earnestly about Victorian values.

It was a brief taster with more, obviously to follow. First we had to contain our impatience while our history was updated on the extent of the collaboration of the French, without undue pressure from the Germans, in the final solution. This item was sparked by the arrest of Klaus Barbie and the guilty memories it has aroused.

The news reporters for defeat, were rounded up and held in French concentration camps before being shipped to the frontier to be taken from there to Auschwitz.

Witnesses, including former Wimbledon champion Jean Borotra, who some may remember as the bounding Basque, were invited to testify on the extermination in *Vitry-sous-La-Forêt* was everybody's granddaddy and St. Gault just a voice crying in the wilderness.

It was a salutary item, but we didn't stay overlong, before scientist Dr Julius Grant appeared to tell us about the Hitler-diary forgeries in particular and historical forgeries in general. The speaker, he thought, would have been better done. He didn't think document exam-

iners were always the winners but did consider it advisable for historians to consult scientists first before proceeding to conclusions.

Mrs Thatcher didn't come up to the mark for the Victorian value section. The scrutiny was on her home town of Grantham in the nineteenth century. Materially speaking, it fared rather well. The railways made it thrive and there were those entrepreneurs all helping themselves and prospering sufficiently to enjoy that feeling of beneficence about which Mrs Thatcher had spoken earlier.

Schools and hospitals were endowed and even the lower classes got into the swing of things and subscribed to send papers to be brooded up at Skipton. But it wasn't all cakes and ale. Government help had to be sought to support the schools and there was a 30-year argument and outbreaks of cholera and typhus before the drainage system was put to rights.

There was also, seemingly, endless discussion about what Victorian values were. Nothing changes, you might think. Looking back a Princeton academic thought that people tended to be selective about what they chose from the Victorian era - an arm here, a leg there, finally a monster that had never really existed. Nostalgia, editor, Bruce Norman's programme properly reminded us; is a great anaesthetic.

Dennis Hackett

#### Opera

#### Merry Wives

##### Arts, Cambridge

Judging by the number of empty seats, Cambridge clearly feels there are better things to do with the first week of June than watch Nicolai's *Merry Wives of Windsor*. Admittedly, the enterprise of Guildhall Opera in staging such an underestimated work, not many minutes had passed before I had to agree.

Though written in the year of Verdi's *Luisa Miller*, this is Nicolai's own, low Falstaff, and comparisons are inevitable. If anything, Nicolai's score is overloaded with good things.

The central Falstaff/Ford/Page affair, for instance, is likely to be upstaged once too often by Fentos and Anne Page, especially when, in the casting I saw, Mark Tucker's steely lyric

tenor and Maureen Brathwaite's light soprano make such magnificent music of Act Two's duet.

What it really takes for the work to stand in its own right is a far greater awareness of the bright Mediterranean light, the homage to the Italy of not only Mendelssohn but also Bellini that shines through the score. Vilém Tausky, conducting, and Johanna Peters, directing, have the measure of Nicolai's earthy humanity all right. But as yet a dreadfully stilted opening duet between the Mistresses Ford (Eija Jarvela) and Page (Margaret Leatz) is all too prophetic of what is to come: orchestral rhythms and tempi as sturdily wooden as Richard Curtis' Barry's multipurpose Tudor set, unstylish coloratura, and characterization that borders quite unnecessarily on caricature.

Hilary Finch

#### Galleries

#### Watch what you're treading on

The National Gallery show does include some rare and beautiful carpets, but to see in its full splendour the kind of thing so frequently featured in paintings that it has come to be known by the painters' name - we talk of Holbein, Lotto, Cavelli, and Bellini carpets - you must go to the Hayward Gallery's Show *The Eastern Carpet in the Western World* (until July 10).

Here the immediate impression is of entering a treasure house. No-doubt conservation requirements are primarily responsible for the low light levels. But once the eye gets used to them, the effect is perfect for showing off the subtlest details of colour and texture: and the prevailing dusk the carpets shimmer and glow in pools of light, seeming to change in colour and pattern as one approaches or retreats, walks past them or just stands and stares.

In fact, I can never remember the rather unmanageable spaces of the Hayward used to better effect purely as a piece of installation: the show is masterly, using to the full the gallery's possibilities in the way of unexpected vistas and multiple levels of viewpoint. But finally it must be the carpets themselves which make the show. And here there is no faulting the organizers at all: we can see more than 80 of the finest (and most often famous) carpets in the world.

Every visitor will have his or her own favourites. Mine are the wonderfully rich, under-payed, geometrical Mamluk carpets, as most splendidly represented by the immense 'Medici' carpet recently discovered rolled up, in almost pristine condition, in a storeroom of the Pitti Palace. Or at least I think those are my favourites, until I come round to some of the lovely Indian or Persian animal carpets, or to a severely worn medallion carpet which has rather touchingly gained in delicacy of colouring from what it has lost in substance, or the Märby rug, which looks improbably Scandinavian even before you know it somehow found its way from Anatolia to a remote Swedish country church. For the moment, the Hayward is a treasure house indeed.

John Russell Taylor

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#### The Eastern Carpet in the Western World

#### Hayward Gallery

#### Carpets in Paintings National Gallery

Though we accept in principle that carpets can be works of art, it may often be difficult to remember that as we unthinkingly trample them underfoot. Of course that is, as well, what carpets are for, and often in the past an index of the owner's riches and grandeur was precisely the degree of negligence with which he could afford to treat something so splendid as the carpet beneath his heel. But the National Gallery's show *Carpets in Paintings* (until July 24) also provides evidence of the care and even reverence with which the finest contemporary products of oriental carpet workshops were treated by Europeans during the sixteenth century.

in portraits and domestic interiors they are so often on the table or the floor, and their prominent positioning in paintings such as Crivelli's *Annunciation* or Holbein's *The Ambassadors* is a further indication of their importance.

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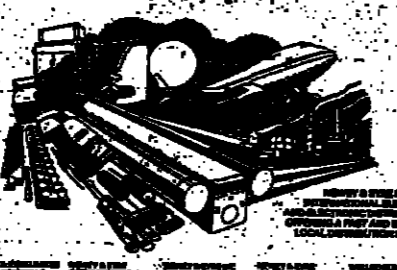
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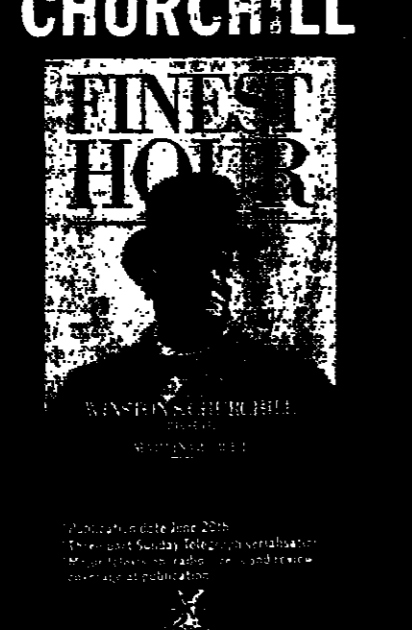
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SPECTRUM

Geneva behind closed doors: John Barry describes how the first attempt at an agreement on the reduction of European missiles disintegrated in Washington and Moscow, and how the generals hijacked the Soviet arms control team

New men take over in Moscow

Liberal mythology has transmuted Washington's response to Nitze's plan into a triumph of the forces of darkness over light. In this epic version, everyone greeted the plan enthusiastically until "the prince of darkness", Pentagon arms-control hawk Richard Perle, heard of it and killed it. The epilogue contends that, but for this American rejection, the Soviets might have accepted the deal.

All wrong, President Reagan and his most senior advisers were initially ambivalent about the package, liking it in outline but seeing problems in detail. Reagan asked two questions. Strategic: "Can the joint chiefs of staff live without the Pershing-2?" Tactical: "If it is a good deal, should NATO accept it; or would we get a better one by waiting?"

The joint chiefs split on the merits of the Pershing-2, but all stressed one point. For NATO to agree, as part of a deal, not to deploy ballistic missiles was one thing; but to have NATO denied by treaty the right to deploy such missiles was unacceptable.

By the time Perle arrived back at the Pentagon in mid-August from a summer seminar, that was the Defence Department's view. It is fair to say, though, that when Defence Secretary Weinberger gave Perle the job of writing the department's paper on the Nitze plan - a paper subsuming the joint chiefs' opinions - Perle at once broadened the opposition.

Basically, Perle argued that if the US abandoned Pershing-2, Europe would shroud thereafter abandon cruise as well. Pershing was "the keystone of the arch". So it would be zero in exchange for what? Not that Perle really thought the Soviets would accept Nitze's concessions. Why should Moscow settle now, when the peace movements might yet block all NATO deployments?

What really scared Perle was the thought that the Soviets might choose to leak Nitze's paper in Europe. He foresaw that Chancellor Schmidt would at once grasp the abandonment of the Pershing-2, whatever the Soviet response to the rest of the package. Result: total collapse of western negotiating position.

If Nitze himself had continued to back his plan, Perle's memorandum might have been less influential. But when Nitze met once more with President Reagan and his senior advisers towards the end of August, he too had doubts - because of a final twist to his deal with Kvitvinsky.

As they had parted after their walk, Kvitvinsky had asked Nitze not to broach the plan in Washington until he had sounded out Moscow. (Nitze kept silent, neither accepting nor rejecting that constraint.) Kvitvinsky said that if opinion in Moscow was favourable, he would send word to Nitze. If the message did not come, would Nitze please forget the plan.

The message never came. At the decision meeting with Reagan, therefore, Nitze was torn. He thought the political and public-relations need for compromise was still strong. But if the Soviets were going to reject their part of his package, then the US would merely weaken its hand if it accepted the other half.

So the decision was made. The US would wait for the Soviets to respond first. If they expressed any interest at all, then Nitze was to say that the US had some difficulties with the package but would be willing to discuss details - and that the US in any event was anxious to keep open this private Nitze-Kvitvinsky channel.

That was why Secretary of State George Shultz, when he met Gromyko at the United Nations on September 28, took the apparently strange course of saying nothing about the Nitze proposal. He was waiting for Gromyko to mention it first. Gromyko never did. Instead, as he arrived at Geneva airport the same day, Kvitvinsky read a typed statement to waiting newsmen. It was a harsh attack on US negotiating tactics - and the clearest possible signal to Nitze that his compromise was rejected. "Comrade", Kvitvinsky said to him when they next met alone, "I hear you had your troubles in Washington. I had mine in Moscow".

What happened? The explanation hinted at by Soviet sources is that Moscow made essentially the decision Richard Perle had predicted. It was too soon to concede.

The Soviet hints add up to this. Gromyko was indeed looking for a deal, but his room for manoeuvre in Moscow was limited. To sell a compromise to the Soviet military, he needed from the West both the concession Nitze offered - no Pershing-2 - and the one he himself had stressed to Kvitvinsky: compensation for British and French missiles. But that, in turn, implies the Soviet general staff was not really interested in a deal. For, taken together, those would represent not a compromise by the West but the total collapse of its negotiating position, since it would leave zero NATO deployments against a sizeable SS-20 force. So perhaps Kvitvinsky did exceed his brief.

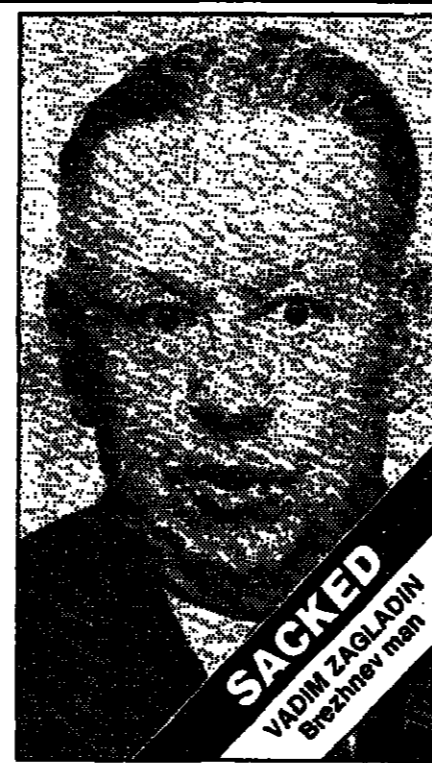
Kvitvinsky virtually said as much to Nitze in their first private conversation of the third round. He had been reprimanded in Moscow, he said, berated severely. Nitze had cheated him, they said, out-foxed him - and the specific issue had been the British and French systems. And he hinted at factions: there were people in Moscow, he said, not at all unhappy that the United States had its own difficulties with the proposal.

But there must be more to it than that. Behind Kvitvinsky's blue-tinted spectacles lies a sharp and calculating brain. He was convinced last summer that he was acting inside Gromyko's instructions. Something changed in Moscow during the summer. What?

The answer is surely Brezhnev's health. The old man had suffered another stroke at the end of March, on a plane back from Tashkent; and though his doctors got him back into action, he declined steadily until his death in November. Perhaps, that final summer, he did cherish dreams of a summit to seal some last triumphant set of arms-control agreements. But it was too late. By mid-summer the succession crisis must have dominated everything in the Kremlin - dominated, certainly, the actions of Gromyko.



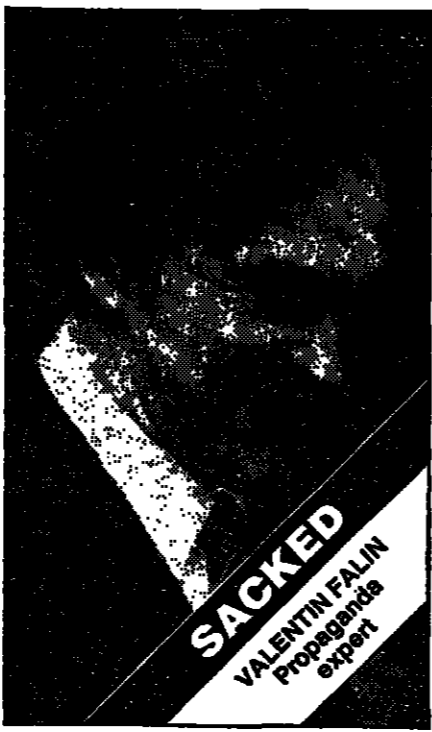
DEFEATED  
ANDREI GROMYKO  
Soviet foreign minister



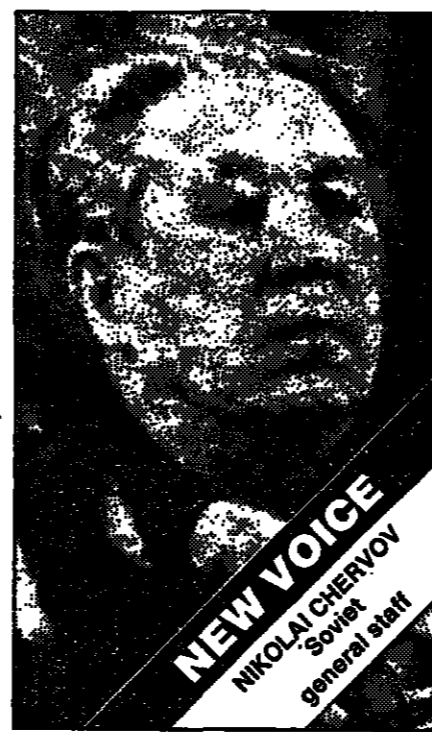
SACKED  
VADIM ZAGLADIN  
Brezhnev's man



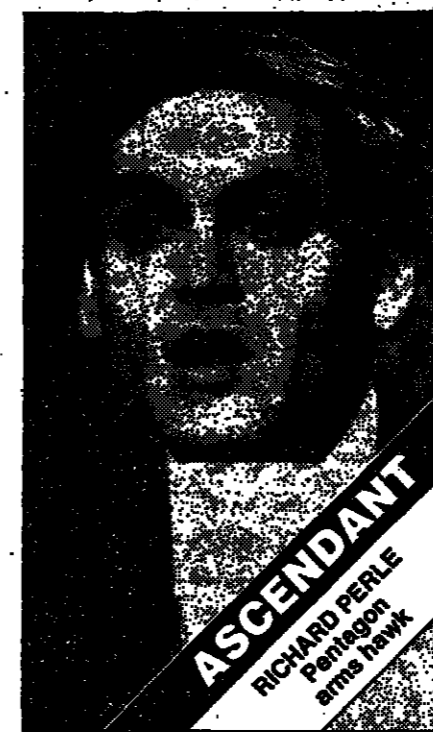
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NEW VOICE  
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Soviet general staff



ASCENDANT  
RICHARD PERLE  
State hawk

For the emergence of a new Soviet leader is a process still not too distant from Boris Godunov. Imagine an American president selected by a collegium comprising the Pentagon, the CIA, the FBI, the big city bosses and a few veteran state governors; you have the Soviet leadership contest. And the most powerful of today's boyars are the military.

By last autumn neither Gromyko nor any other member of the Politburo was even going to look at a deal in Geneva that the military did not like. And the Soviet general staff, it is fair to assume, is among the strongest adherents to Moscow's own zero option: zero NATO deployments. On that reading, Nitze's compromise never stood a chance in Moscow.

All that has changed at Geneva as a result of Yuri Andropov's succession as Soviet leader has been the skill with which Moscow has concealed from European public opinion this immobility at the heart of the Kremlin's position.

When Andropov announced last Christmas the Soviet offer to cut its European SS-20 deployments to match the 162 British and French missiles, Moscow won the propaganda initiative for the first time since President Reagan had deployed the zero-zero option. It took NATO four months to concert its response, while in Washington it seemed as if Reagan had decided to give Andropov a free ride. First, Washington muffed its reception of the Andropov offer. Then Eugene Rostov, a figure Europeans had come to respect as a serious force for arms control in an unenthusiastic administration, was fired from the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

Yet the West knew the Andropov offer was coming. There was nothing new about it. As far back as February last year, when the Soviets tabled at Geneva the first outline of a draft treaty, Kvitvinsky indicated that, as an alternative to the 300-limit this proposed for each side, Moscow would accept a 162-missile ceiling: 162 SS-20s equalling 162 British and French forces.

That offer came behind closed doors. But by late November, as the third round drew to a close at Geneva, it was clear from Kvitvinsky's comments in the informal session - the so-called "post-plenaries" which follow each formal meeting - that the Soviets

were about to unveil the 162 idea in public. That was why Nitze, arriving home in Washington in early December, at once began pressing not merely for an American compromise but for serious consideration of how to salvage matters if the Europeans backed away from deployment altogether.

Both Chancellor Schmidt and President Mitterrand were by now hinting privately that they would accept what insiders call the "magic number": solution: zero NATO deployments in exchange for a cut in European SS-20 deployments to some "magic number" - anything from 50 to 100. Nitze thought Andropov would unveil the 162 offer at the best moment to influence the German election in the spring; and he thought there was a real possibility that, under the pressures of a close-fought campaign, both major

Nitze lost. His ideas for compromise had been rejected.

Depressed, he thought of resigning

German parties might accept the offer. But Nitze lost. By mid-January, his ideas for compromise had been rejected. Depressed, Nitze contemplated resignation. His wife's worsening emphysema would provide a legitimate excuse - a genuine one, indeed, since he is very worried about her. But then in mid-January, Eugene Rostov was fired; and Nitze realized he was trapped. If he quit too, the result would be such uproar in Europe that the NATO deployment programme would collapse - and then he foresaw irreparable damage to the Atlantic Alliance.

Nitze was canny enough to see, however, that if his unique position means he cannot quit (barring some genuine deterioration in his wife's health), it also means he cannot be fired. So, in a session with President

Reagan before setting off for Geneva once more in January, he very politely extracted better negotiating terms. Nitze's written instructions in January were essentially to plod on with zero-zero. In conversation with the President, however, he was given much greater latitude: the freedom to explore with Kvitvinsky any reasonable hope for compromise.

Through the fourth round at Geneva, however, Nitze had no chance to exercise this. When the delegations met on January 27, Kvitvinsky tabled Andropov's 162 proposal as a series of amendments to the Soviets' initial draft treaty. Dutifully, Nitze and his delegation slogged through the fine print. But Kvitvinsky did not bother to hide that for Moscow everything was waiting upon the West German elections on March 6.

Andropov's failure to achieve zero NATO deployments through intervention in the German election indicates some of the problems his succession struggle has bequeathed him. Instead of a subtle wooing, Moscow's campaign in Germany was a crude muddle. And both the crudeness and the muddle can be traced to the succession.

One set of staff changes tells the story. In mid-January, Vadim Zagladin and Valentin Falin, the Central Committee officials who together had run, under Brezhnev, the Soviets' nuclear propaganda campaign in Germany, were brusquely shunted from their posts. Western observers were amazed: "My God, that guy Falin deserved a medal for his work in West Germany," one high Washington official observed.

Falin's downfall may have had a personal cause: it is rumoured in Moscow that his stepson has defected. But as a group that Central Committee team seems to have been disbanded because its members support Andropov's rival, Chernenko. If so, it was a costly piece of court politics. Without Falin, the Kremlin lacked its subtlest expert on Germany - a trusted emissary to the German left - during the campaign.

Even Falin, though, would have been able to do little about Moscow's other mistake in the election: its rigidity on the Euro-missile issue. For early last November, as Brezhnev's life ebbed away, the new men announced their power. Colonel General Nikolai Chervov, a member of the Soviet

general staff, stated baldly that the arms talks in Geneva were at deadlock because of deliberate United States efforts to block progress. Which being translated means: even before Brezhnev's death, the Soviet military was telling the world that his successor would be in no position to make concessions.

Since then Chervov - who previously had made only rare appearance as a Soviet spokesman - has become the arms-control mouthpiece of the new regime. He has been joined by Major General Yuri Lebedev, the general staff representative on Kvitvinsky's delegation. While the West, in other words, agonized over the adequacy of President Reagan's choice as head of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency in Moscow - which of course has no equivalent agency - the military has summarily signalled their control of policy.

So it is no surprise that Andropov's December offer was in reality no more than a public statement of the Soviets' initial alternative proposal made behind closed doors in Geneva. Nor is it a surprise that his latest offer - announced in a speech on May 3 at a Kremlin banquet in honour of the East German leader Erich Honecker - should be yet another wrapping around the same, unchanged position.

The irony is that it is the Soviet Union and not the US which is still locked into 'zero option'

The irony, as both sides settle into the fifth round of negotiations which began in Geneva on May 17, is that it is the Soviet Union and not the United States which is still locked into the "zero option". In March at European urging, President Reagan abandoned the West's "zero-zero" stance. But Moscow retains its initial demand: zero NATO deployments. There is no evidence that Andropov wants to abandon this nor any that the Soviet military would allow him to.

Instead, Andropov must be weighing tough choices - choices about actions outside the conference chamber. How much further pressure will he put upon West Germany? For the Geneva talks are going to fail unless either the West capitulates and abandons its deployment plans or the Soviet leadership agrees to deep cuts than it has ever contemplated in its SS-20 forces. To avoid that, Moscow will seek to achieve its goal by increased pressure on western Europe. The stakes are that high.

In this respect, Soviet commentators have been a better guide to Geneva than their western counterparts. The fragmentary western insights have focused on systems, numbers, minutiae; but the Soviets have consistently stressed that the issue is political and strategic. They are right. Arms-control treaties codify the strategic relationship between the signatories: the heart of any treaty has to be a political agreement about the nature of that relationship.

What is at issue at Geneva is the strategic relationship between western Europe and the Soviet Union. Moscow wants to have a nuclear monopoly on the continent: its aim at US nuclear weapons capable of striking the Soviet Union, while itself retaining hundreds of warheads targeted on western Europe. But in December 1979, the Atlantic Alliance decided that, in an age of superpower nuclear parity, western Europe needed the means to strike Soviet targets from bases on its own soil.

That contradiction is the strategic issue unresolved at the heart of the Geneva talks; and by definition it cannot be resolved at Geneva or by negotiations anywhere. It can be resolved only by a political decision by western Europe to retreat on the issue and accept Soviet nuclear dominance over the continent - or by a continuing effort of will to assert a very different strategic balance.

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Today sees the introduction of an entirely new nature feature. The nearest that most of us get to nature these days, apart from watching David Attenborough in a darkened room, is seeing the side of the motorway flash past our car window. To help us enjoy and understand motorway nature more, famous naturalist "Hard Shoulder" will be answering your queries from time to time.

Isn't it dangerous to watch nature from a car at full speed? What is there to see on a motorway anyway? - D. B. Dalwick. "Hard Shoulder" writes: This may surprise you, but research has shown that passengers, not being in control of a car, tend to keep their eyes on the road far more than drivers do, something like 64 per cent of the time instead of drivers' 32 per cent. Therefore drivers have plenty of time to study nature and passengers could if they wanted to. I believe that sincere

nature study could eliminate most backseat driving. As for your second question, motorways contain far more nature than the average landscape. Motorways are free from the three great pests of the countryside: pesticides, farmers and vandals. Indeed, motorway banks are the last great nature reserves.

What are the commonest flowers on motorways? T. H. of Paddington. "Hard Shoulder" writes: The Yellow Blue, the Red Rocket, the Flash of Blue and Pink Streak. For closer identification, you can always pull over to the hard shoulder and stop, though it is wise to raise your bonnet and put on your warning lights before you go botanizing. If you are still baffled, there are many telephones spaced along our motorways which you can use to raise queries about wild flowers.

Nature study at 70mph

NOROVER... Miles Kington

What kind of grass is most common along motorways? - S. K. of Totnes. "Hard Shoulder" writes: Two kinds - ordinary grass and marijuana. Marijuana is most commonly found growing thickly behind those little ramps marked "Police Patrol Vehicles Only", where brightly coloured police cars can often be seen with their occupants reading the paper. Quite why this should be associated with marijuana is not known, but the most likely theory is that policemen often use the rest in order to clean out their cars. No doubt many parcels of cannabis, left-over from raids, or recent trials, or visits to pop stars' homes, are brushed out with the crisp packets and old handkerchiefs, and

grow readily round the ramps. Why are the bushes beside motorways so small? They never seem to grow very high. - C. M. of Bath. "Hard Shoulder" writes: Because of the nitrogen from cars' exhausts, vegetation does in fact grow very fast beside motorways. But any bush over a certain height and weight becomes dangerous when a car drives into it, so it has to be removed. They are now experimenting to produce a bush which is soft and springy enough to absorb the shock of a 70 mph car, and if you should be lucky enough to visit the DoE Experimental Bush Station near the M6, you will see the exciting sight of goggled and helmeted drivers steering at

speeds up to 100 mph into thick woodland.

The other day I was lucky enough to see the famous sign near Cheltenham: "Caution - Migratory Toads Crossing". But does this mean you should slow down, or what? - D.K. of Kings Lynn. "Hard Shoulder" writes: Good point. Generally, you should slow down for a "wild life ahead" sign. Falling Rocks, for instance, or Cattle Crossing. But in the case of toads or any small, slow form of life, it is better to drive as fast as possible. You are going to win the encounter whatever speed you collide at, so obviously if you drive quickly through the afflicted area, you will be in it for less time and have less chance of hitting anything. Deer Crossing you can approach, either way, depending on whether you prefer live deer or venison. For cattle, I stay absolutely still. If they move

very slowly past the car, I usually nip out and milk one - I always keep a bucket handy for the purpose.

Why are there so many rocks on hard shoulders? - M.B. of Boston. "Hard Shoulder" writes: Odd, isn't it? We're still not sure why, but we think they are acting in collaboration with motorway hawks, those predators which can often be seen hovering over the banks. The rocks decoy the motorist, the motorist crashes, the hawk comes in like a vulture and finishes off the motorist.

Is there any evidence for this rather David Attenboroughish view of the world? - M.B. of Boston. "Hard Shoulder" writes: None at all, but it is going to make a smashing episode in my forthcoming TV nature series, "The Living Motorway".

If you have any queries about motorway nature, or have seen something inexplicable and sensational, don't hesitate to write to "Hard Shoulder" about it.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 73)

CROSSWORD grid with numbers 1-26 indicating starting points for words.

ACROSS: 1 Most (6), 5 Refuse (6), 8 Colour (3), 9 Agree (6), 10 Stroke (6), 11 Heredity unit (4), 12 Story teller (8), 13 Exhilarated (6), 15 Overrun (6), 17 Workman (8), 20 Sail swing (4), 22 Metal covered (6), 23 Foreign (6), 24 Delegate (3), 25 Tacky (6), 26 Catch fire (6). DOWN: 2 Wear down (5), 3 Very old (7), 4 Made king (7), 5 Direct (5), 6 Military roles (5), 7 Inquisitive (7), 8 Brief paper (7), 15 Jewish national (7), 16 Ship's hoist (7), 18 Drink measure (5), 19 Healthily red (5), 21 Constructed (5). SOLUTION TO No 72: ACROSS: 1 Suffer, 4 Poplin, 7 Dull, 8 Viscount, 9 Literature, 12 Arc, 15 Flambe, 16 Assume, 17 Roe, 19 Desolate, 24 Deal, 26 Shot, 25 Prop, 26 Static, 27 Feeder. DOWN: 1 Soda, 3 Fulminant, 5 Raver, 4 Post-5, 6 Pool, 6 Inner, 10 Embell, 11 Eased, 12 Advertiser, 13 Chew, 14 Ask, 16 Overt, 20 Ethic, 21 Overt, 22 Adit, 23 Spur.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: 1550 من الأصل

BOOKS

Histories make men wise? Bacon

A Personal History By A. J. P. Taylor (Hamish Hamilton, £9.95)

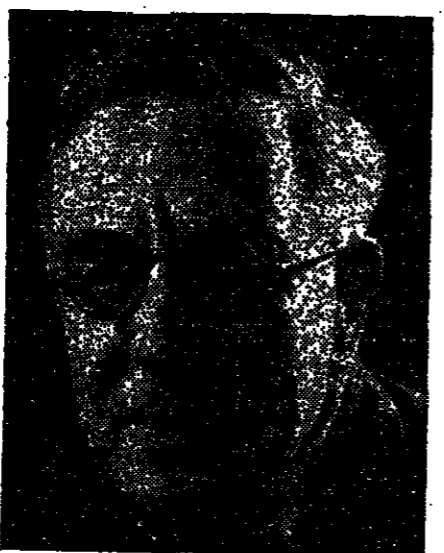
An image pads after you as you close this book of lighted windows outside which a small and elderly gentleman is pushing a wheelbarrow full of books. Quite alone, he disappears into the dark.

There have been 30 books. The author returns to this fact again and again, and there is even a photograph of them, stacked like rifles, for historians, like gunfighters, to keep count. Their number becomes even more important when, in a distinguished career, some glittering prizes are conspicuously absent. Lesser men stand in the lighted windows, who shall never see so much nor live so long.

Mr Taylor's is a careful autobiography lit occasionally by force. Much of the latter is provided by his first wife's distressing habit of falling in love with other men, with his student Robert Kee (later the man who, in Philip Parson's image, got up at dawn to polish the news for TV-AM) and with the poet Dylan Thomas. Mr Taylor could not stand Thomas or his poetry. He introduces him giggling, "he he he", the way Frank Richards introduced Bunter, and even now is plagued by him: American poets still thank him for his kindness to the poet.

Perhaps as a result there is no poetry in this book, and no imagery. There are many facts (as when the author consummates his first love affair in the Shillingford Hotel, helped by a gynaecologist's knife) delivered in short, spiky, statements followed by a brief reflection. Paragraphs end "Such was..."

This is Mr Taylor undergoing his first experience of sex in the bath with the family maid, "an activity that gave pleasure to both parties." The effect is that neat red lines are drawn under every experience, and you have a horrifying picture of a naked child with a 77-year-old face.



At no point do you feel that he was ever young. As a child he devised his parents' holiday itineraries and was convinced that grown-ups were mad. There were no loyalties, and no doubts. Nothing changed. There is much personal betrayal, which he seems to have expected, much disillusion (especially with women) and with the Labour Party and with trade unions. There is some self-satisfaction, Mr

Taylor having never learnt the habits of modesty inculcated by the English public schools. He is, he reflects, "a more or less serious historian"; he is also "the most distinguished historian of modern times" at Oxford. He regards himself as an outsider.

He has little good to say about anyone, though there is pride in his children whom he regards as his best friends. He is also proud of his ability to walk long distances, and of his teeth (fixed up for him, presumably free, at a dental hospital). He seems to have been always worried about money.

There are some bruised reflections of a bizarre kind, on double beds (he blames much of his marital unhappiness on the fact that he did not share one until he was nearly 70), and on vegetables, the growing of which kept him tied to the land as securely as a serf for much of his adult life.

There is one startling idyll, late-flowering live in the Public Records Office and on the steps of the British Museum which brought him to double-beds and the third Mrs Taylor. Surprisingly, and unlike the poet Yeats who got his at Heal's, he does not say where the bed was bought.

The book was shorter than in manuscript because his second wife objected to her inclusion, so that two children materialize abruptly among the short sentences. Lawyers also found 76 potential cases of libel: Mr Taylor, his eye on subsequent editions, now readily watches the obituary columns.

It is an odd book. There is not a single dull sentence in it; but neither is there anything to make you want to read it again.

Byron Rogers



The Countess as Barber, from Rainy Days at Brig O'Turk; the Highland Sketchbooks of John Everett Millais, 1853, edited by Mary Lutyens & Malcolm Warner (Dalrymple, £45). Millais's favourite nickname for Effie was "the Countess"

Science fiction Ideas in Space

Documents Relating To The Sentimental Agents In The Volven Empire By Doris Lessing (Cape, £7.95)

Fables find a natural congruity within science fiction, embodying a circumstance which is so near to and so far from present reality. This is Miss Lessing's fifth in her Canopus In Argos: Archives, which are examining expressions of human behaviour in terms of cultures created purely for the test-tubes of her arguments.

It is at once her most skilful and - while allowing abstraction instead of characterization - her most enjoyably perceptive.

Told mainly via a series of reports from the Canopean agent, Klorathy, it is an account of his encounters with certain inhabitants of the independent planet of Volven and its two moons, notably with another agent, Incent, who has succumbed to the affliction of Undulant Rhetoric.

This illness, whose symptoms result in a profound excitement about the nature of the way things are, cannot be cured even by the homeopathic treatment/assault of Tchaikovsky and Wagner. It requires the Total Immersion therapy of re-living the French Revolution to bring Incent back to some sort of sense.

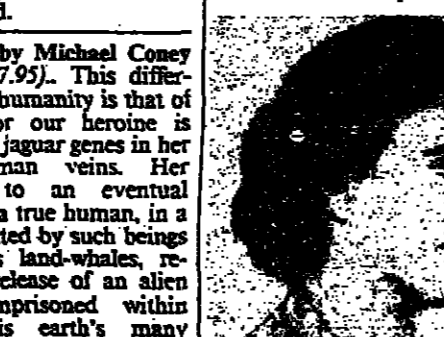
In the beginning - and in the end - are words and it is their interchange with human emotion which is one of the most fascinating aspects of the book's description of a world in which revolutionary fervour is fermenting like yeast, and a revolutionary leader will fall into the declamation of "We will fight them on the beaches..." as an easy way out of logical thought.

Some phrases escape from the maelstrom of words to pierce a situation: "There is no such thing as a free lunch" is one. But too often those words

The woman with BB

Mary Berenson A Self Portrait from her Letters and Diaries Edited by Barbara Strachey & Jayne Samuels (Gollancz, £12.95)

In 1891, when she was 27, Mary Costelloe abandoned her husband and two small daughters in London, and ran off with Bernard Berenson, for love and for the Italian art of which he was the rising young connoisseur. She lived with him for the next 50 years, marrying him when her husband died. She was one of the most remarkable women of the past century.



Mary, aged 20, from a drawing by Ed Clifford, December 1884

intellectual, passionate, witty, a free spirit. She had been born Mary Smith, into the famous Pearsall Smith Quaker family of Philadelphia. Cut off from family and friends by scandal and geography, she kept in touch by a prodigious correspondence. Mary was a prolific and entertaining letter-writer, exceptionally interested in and frank about herself and everyone else in sight. She wrote to her battle-axe mother, Hannah Whitball Smith, almost daily; to her sister Alice, Bertrand Russell's first wife; to BB in the summers which she normally spent with

Educating Casca

The Oxford Dictionary of Modern Greek Edited by J. T. Pring (Oxford, £9.50)

Greek, we all know, was what Cicero spoke and was Greek to Casca. It was the language of Homer. Plato and the New Testament, and survives even now as the oldest language in Europe, whose voluble hubbub provides an atmospheric background to an Aegean holiday. But the language of Greeks today is more than those things: it is now (since January 1981) an official language of the EEC, solemnly inscribed, in our local supermarkets, on packets of cocktail biscuits and disposable nappies, and in demand in the translation and interpreting sections of European institutions: it is the language of a substantial international business community and of Greeks of the "diaspora" worldwide; and it is the language in which two recent Nobel prize winners, George Seferis and Odysseus Elytis, have written their poetry.

There has long been a need for a manageable and accurate dictionary to guide the English-speaking learner or traveller through the Modern Greek language in all of these manifestations. The Oxford Dictionary of Modern Greek (Greek-English) first appeared in 1965, but has only this year been reissued and rather larger, section devoted to English-Greek, thus bringing to a conclusion a labour of love which has lasted for more than thirty years for its compiler, Julian Pring.

In its new form the dictionary is both the most reliable and the most comprehensive of its size available. The achievement is the more remarkable in that the thirty-odd years of its gestation have seen significant changes in the language itself, notably the emergence of a fully articulate idiom of the modern urban world, out of the old polarization (rural and "low-life") and katharevousa (the artificial language of state institutions and of learning). That the older

Philip Howard

Roll on Death

The Oxford Book of Death Chosen and edited by D. J. Enright (Oxford, £9.50)

First the obligatory display of erudition and taste from a reviewer confronted with an anthology. Missing from this one are the death of Jo from Bleak House ("Dead, you Majesty. Dead my Lords and gentlemen. Dead, Right Reverends and Wrong Reverends of every Order"), Yeats's magnificent At Algieras ("The heron-billed pale cattle-birds...") and anything of substance from Beckett, surely an expert witness at this inquest.

But my heart is not in this carping for Enright has produced a marvellous book with enough discoveries to make up for any number of omissions. His problem was, of course, the brief: where do you start or, should I say, finish? "Death is not an event of life. Death is not lived through" (Wittgenstein) So it is notably difficult to write directly about. On the other hand it is even more difficult to write about anything else, death being the inescapable debt we owe for the privilege of writing in the first place.

"It is," wrote Empson, "the trigger of the literary man's biggest gun" and Enright himself observes that on no subject are writers more lively. To contain his unwieldy assembly Enright divides his quotations into categories such as Suicide ("Crech, the commentator on Lucretius, noted on his manuscript: 'NB Must hang myself when I have finished.' He kept his word...; Voltaire) or Views and Attitudes ("He who hath learned to die, hath unlearned to serve." Montaigne). Each section is introduced by a calm

Roderick Beaton

The woman with BB

Mary Berenson A Self Portrait from her Letters and Diaries Edited by Barbara Strachey & Jayne Samuels (Gollancz, £12.95)

Her grand-daughter, Barbara Strachey, author of that model family history, Remarkable Relations, and Jayne Samuels, constructed a narrative of Mary's life out of extracts from her letters and selections from her intimate diaries, linked by short introductions to fill in the

neither Mary nor Bernard can have been easy to live with. They were neurotic, and jealous of each other's work in the bachelors' club. "Possessing for each other" they had a series of passionate affairs: "inflammations of the heart," Mary described them to her mother. BB increasingly had a terrible black temper, particularly directed at Mary. But neither of them was ever boring to live with. And they knew that their pioneering work in Italian art appreciation would last. Of the remarkable pair of eagles, give me Mary every time. Hers was a royal nature, which man axe mother, Hannah Whitball Smith, almost daily; to her sister Alice, Bertrand Russell's first wife; to BB in the summers which she normally spent with

neither Mary nor Bernard can have been easy to live with. They were neurotic, and jealous of each other's work in the bachelors' club. "Possessing for each other" they had a series of passionate affairs: "inflammations of the heart," Mary described them to her mother. BB increasingly had a terrible black temper, particularly directed at Mary. But neither of them was ever boring to live with. And they knew that their pioneering work in Italian art appreciation would last. Of the remarkable pair of eagles, give me Mary every time. Hers was a royal nature, which man axe mother, Hannah Whitball Smith, almost daily; to her sister Alice, Bertrand Russell's first wife; to BB in the summers which she normally spent with

Philip Howard

H.A. Williams' 'SOME DAY I'LL FIND YOU' REPRINT NOW AVAILABLE. For all its fun, this account of...his search for Good and for God is extremely moving. Francis King, The Sunday Telegraph. '...a rare triumph. It is honest, funny and surprising...among the most rewarding accounts of personal belief to have been published in England in our generation.' The Dean of St. Paul's, Times Literary Supplement. Harry Williams' autobiography is proving so popular that we have now reprinted to meet the unprecedented demand for copies. £7.95 From good bookshops. MITCHELL BEAZLEY

Fiction Berry, and Hannay, and Drummond & Co. Combined Forces By Jack Smithers (Buchan & Enright, £7.95). Dancing in the Dark By Janet Hobhouse (Cape, £7.95). King of the Roses By V. S. Anderson (Macmillan, £7.95). One of the apocryphal stories about royalty concerns a young man in the 1920s who pestered this newspaper to make him its stringer in Albania. Soon after Albania hit the headlines. As other papers carried reports of dramatic coups, The Times despatched a wire requesting copy. No copy came, another cable was sent, with the same result. A final missive warned that unless some material was received by return, the young man would be replaced. This elicited a reply, albeit brief. "All

The Times Educational Supplement... a thoroughly admirable publication; essential reading for the serious and ambitious school-teacher... one of the advantages enjoyed by an eighty-page educational magazine is the wealth of literary talent hanging around our colleges and universities waiting to write the odd freelance article. Which is why the TES is able to cover so much eclectic ground. (Roy Hattersley, Punch March 16 1983). The Times Educational Supplement is available at newsagents every Friday, price 50p. If you wish to take the TES on subscription simply complete the coupon below and post it together with your cheque to the address shown. In addition to your 52 issues of the TES we will also send you a free copy of the very latest hardback edition of Roget's Thesaurus or a free copy of the latest hardback edition of The Concise Oxford Dictionary. Both have been specially bound for The Times Supplement. This offer applies to new subscribers in the UK only. Please send a free [ ] Roget's Thesaurus or [ ] Concise Oxford Dictionary and a year's subscription to the Times Educational Supplement. I enclose my cheque for £27.50 (cheques made payable to Times Newspapers Ltd.). Please send to: Name: Address: Signature: Date: TT5

PONTIFF INTO THE HEART OF THE VATICAN IN THE YEAR OF THE THREE POPES GORDON THOMAS & MAX MORGAN-WITTS GRANADA PUBLISHING. Nicholas Shakespeare

# Scares? Just look at the scars

JUNE 2 83

Barbara Castle

A new mood has entered Labour's campaign. Henceforth the party is going into the attack with no holds barred. Norman Tebbit has described the new strategy as due to panic. A better word would be anger.

So far the dominant mood in the party has been one of bewilderment. It is not only astonishing that so many people cannot see what is in store for them if Mrs Thatcher is returned, it is also that her massive lead in the polls does not tally with the response Labour is getting from voters on the doorstep.

I have done a good bit of touring around in the past two weeks and the answer I have got time and again has been a vehement: "Of course I am voting Labour. Get that woman out."

The mood has been far more bitterly hostile to Conservative policies than it was in 1979. After all, people have had a taste of what they mean.

Labour's task now is to hammer home in merciless detail what sort of Britain we will be living in by 1989 if Mrs Thatcher is given the chance to complete her grand design.

To be fair she has never hidden the fact that she wants to put into reverse the whole trend of economic and social policy since the war. Now she is demanding the chance to finish the job with a massive majority to do it thoroughly.

So if there is one central truth in this campaign it is that the survival of the welfare state is incompatible with Mrs Thatcher's grand design. It must be dismantled if she is to impose the new "values" she talks about.

But when it comes to selling the details of what is involved to the electorate her nerve fails and she puts up Mr Norman Tebbit to complain of "scares".

But Labour's warnings are not scares, they are prophecies - just as our warnings about VAT and prescription charges were proved to be prophecies, not scares, in 1979.

So Mrs Thatcher's solemn protestation that she has "no intention of dismantling the NHS" cannot be believed. We remember that she asserted just as solemnly in 1979 "we have no intention to raise charges".

It is no accident that all the secret Government documents now coming to light - such as the draft circular to regional health authority chairmen on the private sector and the NHS - are concerned with ways

of handing the present public provision of services to private companies. In this case private nursing homes are to be paid to make clerical patients from the NHS.

What effect that would have on the quality of service can be imagined since the whole idea would be to save money. Health authorities have already found that the catering, laundry and other hospital services they have been forced to privatise have deteriorated.

But the privatization mania is to be extended. The Government cannot simply shrug off the recent catalogue of Cabinet documents all seeking the same aim: to cut state provision of social services and force us all to make private provision for every social need: education, health and even unemployment benefits.

Trade unions are to be further weakened and protective legislation whittled down. It all fits in to a coherent pattern of a "stand on your own feet and God help you if you fall" society.

And I could add a few of my own prophecies. I predict, for instance, that another Thatcher government would reduce the scope and generosity (particularly to women) of the earnings-related pension of the Labour government passed in 1976. It certainly went much further than the Tory opposition wanted, as I know because I was the Secretary of State who had to get it through parliament.

I predict, too, that under a Thatcher government VAT would be put on food. At present Britain and Ireland are the only two countries in the European Community which zero rate food and some other essentials. This annoys the European Commission which is insisting that we should harmonize.

As a good European Mrs Thatcher is not likely to resist the pressure for very long, particularly as VAT would bring in welcome extra revenue.

Why should Mrs Thatcher be annoyed by these so-called scares? She should glory in the proof they give that under her we would gallop back to that Victorian England she holds out to us as the Promised Land.

The author is Labour MEP for Greater Manchester, North.

Tomorrow: John Pardo

Ronald Butt

# From radical chic to radical shriek

The rage, frustration and above all the bewilderment of the radical establishment, founded in the 1960s, is approaching boiling point. The unthinkable is happening. Mrs Thatcher, with a set of convictions that is anathematized by the hitherto dominant opinion-formers, is carrying all before her.

Worse, there is not even any guile in her way of doing it. Mrs Thatcher's personal convictions and instincts are probably far more clearly and widely understood than any other prime minister's since Churchill. People know what she is like and what she would like to do - and, knowing this, the majority seems about to give her another term of office.

If they do, it will confirm that she has the support of millions of working-class people, some of whom are out of work, and of citizens who want a return to a more responsible society and are disillusioned with the prevailing establishment's pretences about what the state can do for them. They would like a more orderly society, both economically and socially; they want their earnings and savings to be able to go about in safety and also have their country adequately defended.

On the other hand, they do not want the welfare services run down and do not believe that Mrs Thatcher would attempt to dismantle them, if only because she is no fool and would understand that she would stand no chance of a third term if she did.

This support for Mrs Thatcher is anathema to the broad church that calls itself radical. It is a rejection of almost every attitude which they had thought they had schooled the people to accept as the given norm - and to which most politicians had previously felt obliged to conform.

So desperation grows. In the Labour Party it takes the form of wild accusations against the Tories that carry no conviction. Among the less alleged radicals, the cry goes up: "Vote for the Alliance so as to stop Mrs Thatcher having a landslide of hangers and floggers who would give her dangerous power."

Instinctively, the older (as we must now call it) radical establishment hates her and what she stands for - above all her concern for achievement. So, because she believes in personal responsibility, they pretend she stands for devil-take-the-hindmost; that she is hard and without understanding.

I have not seen the instincts of the Sneyrwell's of the so-called radical establishment more nastily expressed than in a letter to *The Guardian* by Christopher Driver, a former writer on religious affairs who became editor of the *Good Food Guide*, a man who is the epitome of the non-conformist conscience crossed with the permissive society. Writing apparently from the Alliance standpoint, he does not mention Mrs Thatcher by name, but talks simply of the Lady Macbeth who may get a landslide.

"Yes," his letter began, "she is headstrong, profligate with other

David Watt

# All the world's a platform, but where are our statesmen?

THE TIMES DIARY

### Harrowing

Nearly all our top public schools have declined to be used as the location for the film version of *Julian Mitchell's West End Hit*. *Another Country*. Given the thesis of the play - that privilege and homosexuality in public schools help to feed corruption into the adult establishment - the cynics are understandable. Goldcrest is spending £2m on the film, which has a screenplay by Mitchell, himself a Wykehamist, and hopes to emulate the success in America of *Charlot of Fire*. The producers, Alan Marshall and Robert Fox, plan to start shooting in August and would pay "quite a few thousand pounds" for the loan of a suitable building.

### Big new need

Confused politicians have thronged Mr desk since I started making anagrams of them on Monday. Ceinwen Sinclair of Norfolk says Norman Tebbit is "to bait Mr Benn", and reminds me that in Scotland they say of Denis Healey "he has yielded". Like Joan Ruddock I have been wrestling with Michael Heseltine but my "Heil Steel in Cheam" is bettered by Gabriel Bowman of Paddington: "Hi, neat leech. Smile!" He also has Shirley Williams: "A silly whim riles. Jeffrey Shaw of Sheffield despaches Ken Livingstone to 'Vile Kensington'. Even I am not immune. Alastair Wainwright of Suratham tells me *The Times Diary* is really "The DIY snar", while J. H. McGivering of Weybridge suggests that "I steady the rim." I prefer the latter. I like to consider myself a stabilizing influence in this marginal.

### Banned wagon

The voice of David Steel's son Billy has become a nuisance in Orpington. Billy, who is 19, recorded a campaign song with electronic music background for John Cook, the Liberal Alliance candidate. It goes: "Lookie, lookie, lookie - here comes Cockie. Vote for him this time; He's respected, he's got to be elected. Vote John Cook this time." Apparently the song is so catchy that it has been distracting children doing exams in local schools. Cook has had to promise to keep his loudspeaker vans quiet near schools until going home time.

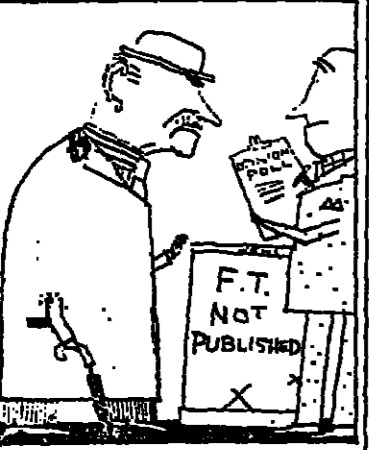
### Boddy counts

You would not have thought the Tories were short of bodies, but David Boddy, the party's former director of press and public relations, has been recalled to help out on the Prime Minister's tour. Boddy left Central Office in March to launch a countryside magazine, *Out of Town*. His return is only temporary. He will be back working on his magazine at four o'clock next Friday.

### In the dock

I can leave it to the Labour Party to call the *Daily Mail* liars, but I must say it enters the Times legal department here, as on Tuesday, the *Mail* suggests that it fought a lone crusade against Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church. The truth is that Diana Pait of *The Times* exposed the Moonies long before the *Mail*, and was sued. When the *Mail* in turn picked up a libel writ, that action rapidly replaced that against *The Times* because the defence of the *Mail* was so weak. *The Mail* asked our lawyers for help, and was able to use *The Times's* defence in toto to win its celebrated libel action.

BARRY FANTONI



"No comment"

### LSOggy

Tuesday night's storms were as nothing compared to what the London Symphony Orchestra unleashed last week on Bangkok. A long Thai drought ended the moment the orchestra's plane touched down, and the noise of the rain actually stopped play in the middle of their performance of Mahler's first symphony. When the concert resumed, the tuning-up session might have been called a pitch inspection.

The light at the end of the tunnel has burst open, in ministers' description at least, into a full prospect of industrial recovery since I started my competition to discover the Tory statesman or woman who first claimed to have spotted it.

Suggestions for Julian Amery on May 1, 1972, Churchill on May 2, 1941, Neville Chamberlain at the Lord Mayor's dinner in 1937, all fail. The most distant contender to date is Stanley Baldwin in 1929, but there is a case of clerical railing on this one, so I am still willing to entertain late claims from anyone who knows better and can supply chapter and verse.

PHS

The Williamsburg summit has come and gone, leaving, so far as I can see, not a wrack behind, either at home or abroad. This is no doubt due in some measure to its having been, on the face of it, one of the most manic gatherings ever to waste the time of eminent political figures. It does, however, draw attention to one of the oddest features of our very odd election campaign, namely the absence of any serious debate about international issues.

Not odd at all, you may say. Foreign policy has played virtually no part in any British election since the war. Why should one expect it to start now? Yet consider this year's agenda. Mrs Thatcher claims that the recession is at least half the fault of the "world economy" (the other half being divided between the British trade unions and previous British governments). Very well, it seems reasonable to ask what she is proposing to do to influence the world economy, and how she thinks its mechanisms work.

Again, Britain is alleged by Mrs Thatcher to have recovered its self-respect as a result of the Falklands war. All right, but how do we keep it, when we cannot defend the Falklands in the long run, and refuse to negotiate with the Argentines on sovereignty? The Labour Party, for its part, is proposing to overturn 30 years of British defence policy by espousing unilateral nuclear disarmament, and 20 years of British foreign policy by coming out of the EEC.

Of these issues, disarmament has had a reasonable airing - and thanks to Labour's extraordinary lethargy, it has been a very effective Conservative weapon. (Why on earth has Labour not counter-attacked on cruise missiles, which the

opinion polls show make people just as uneasy as unilateralism does?) But what has become of the other foreign issues I have mentioned, all of which are actually more important than the marginal question of whether Britain keeps its bomb?

Let us examine first the electoral significance of world economic issues - for which Mrs Thatcher's excursion to Williamsburg might, one would have thought, have provided some ammunition. The Conservatives seem to have been in a suicidal huddle from the outset. At first, we were told that the Prime Minister could not conceivably be expected to go to the summit. It would be like telling the Duke of Wellington to leave for London in the middle of the Battle of Waterloo. Then, the trip was suddenly supposed to be the biggest possible electoral asset. Mrs Thatcher, like Julius Caesar, would "bestride the narrow world like a Colossus", or would at least be seen taking tea with President Reagan, and the amazement and admiration of the electorate would clinch her case.

All rubbish. The Prime Minister had two possible strategies in relation to the summit. Either she could go and make it into a real event, which would have entailed backing President Mitterrand in trying to produce a coordinated economic revival in the West. Alternatively, if she felt ideologically constrained to avoid doing anything so visionary, she could have said that nothing of any importance was going to occur at Williamsburg, and she could have stayed at home and made a virtue of her devotion to the task in hand.

She did neither. She gained a little mild publicity and an endorsement of her monetarist policies, but the sense that nobody actually

agreed on any alternatives, but at the risk of being seen fiddling with the other members of an amateur band while the rest of the world was picking over the blackened ruins of its industrial framework. The Labour Party's credibility is now so low that it has been incapable of taking advantage of this opening - but Mrs Thatcher didn't know that when she made her plans. She is, once again, a lucky woman.

Another example is the European Community issue. Here we have a question on which the country is admittedly split, but on which the Labour Party clearly has a dented policy in which half its leadership does not believe. The Conservative leaders have certainly struck their opponents with the "lost jobs" part of the argument, but only as a way of cutting off the issue from more general debate. They are apparently terrified to open up the wider political arguments for remaking the EC, partly for fear of splitting their own vote and partly, perhaps, because they do not really have a gut belief in them themselves. Norman Tebbit, Michael Heseltine and Mrs Thatcher herself have distinctly mixed feelings on the subject of Europe and are therefore incapable of seizing the opportunity Labour offers.

Or take the Falklands. The Conservative manifesto is full of half-suppressed jingoism and was, indeed, launched to the canned refrain of "Jerusalem", "Land of Hope and Glory", and "Rule Britannia". But it is modest about the Falklands war, one suspects, because the Conservative leadership sense that their voters have closed their books on the episode and, if aroused to further thought, will start to ask awkward questions. The

Labour Party, by contrast, started off in its manifesto by attempting to make some electoral capital of its own out of the war, by suggesting that Mrs Thatcher's Fortress Falklands policy is imposing an intolerable burden on the British people. But they, too, have pussy-footed around the issue during the campaign, and the Liberal/SDP Alliance has never mentioned the war from beginning to end.

Taken all in all, these examples amount to a fairly deafening conspiracy of silence about the international dimension of our affairs. It can mean only one thing - that the politicians are frightened to put questions to the electors for fear of getting the wrong answers. Mrs Thatcher's stock in trade is nationalism, but she is not yet convinced that the British people have her stomach for it. Certainly, Labour, in establishment has not, the British non-nuclear, Fortress Britain, is the proponent of a nationalism that is even more extreme and inward-looking, and it is equally uncertain how the voters will react. As for the Alliance, it is split between old-fashioned ex-Labour nationalists (mainly SDP) and militant Euro-federalists and unilateralists (mainly Liberal) and dare not press home its points on these matters for fear of coming apart at the seams.

It is perhaps unfair to ask that these confusions be clarified at election time, but it is, none the less, a sad state for a country so desperately dependent on the outside world to be in. One looks in vain among the star-studded cast of politicians arrayed before us in this campaign for a single statesman capable of providing the answers.

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# Dashing for wealth in a black market economy

Freetown. Illicit diamond diggers in Sierra Leone were tunnelling away with such energy and persistence that a substantial building collapsed, due to subsidence. It was the local police station.

Though this curious event, combining resourceful if illegal private enterprise and a public authority unable or unwilling to control it, occurred a few years ago it remains an excellent illustration of the bizarre nature of Sierra Leone's economy. It also says quite a lot about this West African country's politics.

Countries, unlike individuals or companies, never go bankrupt, because in the last resort the creditors can never seize the debtor nation's assets. But at the moment a number of British states are as near being taken to the cleaners as it is possible to get - nations which are not only running huge and persistent trade deficits and find it difficult to pay their teachers and clerks at the end of the month, but are also obliged to borrow to repay the interest, let alone the principal, on their foreign debt.

Sierra Leone is a classic example. Later this month a group of those gimlet-eyed men from the International Monetary Fund will visit Freetown to look at the books, talk to the government about its intentions, and then decide whether to bail the country out.

They face a difficult and puzzling task. For a start the national accounts are incomplete and some of the figures are contradictory, the facts cannot definitely be established because the government's central statistical computer went on the blink a few months ago and has not yet been fixed. But the real problem is that Sierra Leone, like many African countries, does not really have one economy; it has two.

The first - the one that appears in the official figures - is in terrible shape. The "pipeline" of unpaid commercial debt for imports and dividend remittances is now 26 months and probably totals 150m leones.

The signs of the acute foreign exchange crisis are highly visible: long lines of harassed motorists queue for a tankful of petrol; power cuts are frequent; industries are at a standstill or work at a fraction of capacity because of a lack of essential imports.

Hackney I don't mind a bit that the police are asking for increased powers to stop people in the street and ask them awkward questions. In fact I think the principle is rather splendid, and I want it extended.

Here in Hackney we could do with a good deal of stopping and asking. The trouble is, very few policemen are going slowly enough or quietly enough to be stopped and asked anything.

We do get the occasional bobby on the beat, with that unmistakable rolling gait, those huge pockets bulging with equipment. But most Hackney policemen are little more than a hysterical blur, LA-style, burning rubber screeching around corners in their vans and Rovers.

As they do so they adopt extravagant poses of indifference and machismo, a cigarette smouldering at the fingers, an elbow stuck out of the window. As they hurtle past, lights ablaze and sirens ablaze, passers-by of every age and race shake their heads and roll their eyes. We know that Hackney is deprived and wicked, but we cannot believe



Siaka Stevens presiding over a country with three exchange rates

But in the local markets and supermarkets you can still buy an astonishing range of goods ranging from reasonably priced claret to textiles and cosmetics - and that's where the "second economy" takes over.

One of the main causes of Sierra Leone's economic difficulties has been the huge rise in oil prices over the past decade and a fall in the price of diamonds, which traditionally make up around half the country's export earnings. Another is corruption - or "dash" as it is known in West Africa - which permeates the whole country.

This is encouraged by the unrealistically low wages paid to public servants, but obviously resentment is caused at a time of shortages when leading figures in the regime build themselves lavish houses which could never have afforded from their official salaries.

After violent elections in this one-party state a year ago, President Siaka Stevens appointed a new government in which the Finance Ministry went to Mr Siaka Sheriff. A former leader of a now defunct opposition party, this forceful accountant, perceived by many as the regime's "Mr Clean", has been trying to knock some sort of sense into the government's finances - for example stopping salaries being paid to non-existent civil servants and halting pension payments to people long since dead.

But as one businessman put it to me: "He's just one man against a whole system, and we can't expect miracles". Mr Sheriff has also reopened talks with the IMF against an inauspicious historical background. In July 1981 the IMF suspended a three-year extended credit facility

only three months after it had been put into effect because the government could not keep to the conditions.

Under IMF prompting he introduced at the beginning of this year an ingenious two-tier exchange rate system. Under this the official quoted rate remains unchanged at 2.2 leones to the pound sterling; the rate is used to pay for essential imports of oil, wheat, school textbooks and debt servicing.

In theory the second, "commercial" quoted rate was to be fixed purely by the laws of supply and demand. Would-be importers would tender at auctions every three weeks and the rate would be what people were prepared to pay for the dollars the Central Bank had on offer.



Siaka Stevens presiding over a country with three exchange rates

one big trader told me that he had consistently tendered at well above the successful striking rate but had received only a small percentage of the foreign exchange he needed to run his business.

As a result, Sierra Leone now has three exchange rates: the official (2.2 leones to the pound); commercial (around 3.8) and black market (more than 4 leones).

"From a foreign exchange point of view the government is living from day to day", one banking official said. Another said the government has at times resorted to borrowing foreign exchange held by wealthy individuals, many of them Lebanese, who control much of the country's business.

One of Sierra Leone's major misfortunes is that its immediate southern neighbour, Liberia, uses

the US dollar as its currency. The lure of this easily accessible hard currency explains in large measure the huge size of Sierra Leone's "second economy", which consists of smuggling and black marketing on a gigantic scale. It is widely believed that up to half the country's diamond production may cross illegally into Liberia and elsewhere.

But the damage to the economy is not confined to diamonds. Because of inadequate producer prices paid to farmers, agricultural products also vanish across the frontier. This was demonstrated earlier this year when one of Freetown's newspapers, which by African standards are remarkably outspoken, printed rumours which proved to be untrue, that Liberia's president, Samuel Doe, had poisoned his wife.

The enraged Liberian leader demanded a government apology, threatened to revive a claim to Sierra Leonean territory and sealed the border with his army.

A diplomatic solution was eventually found, but, intriguingly, during the three weeks that the border was sealed the price of palm oil and several other basic commodities fell in Sierra Leone by up to 50 per cent.

There is also considerable smuggling with the other neighbour, Guinea. The Guineans have an almost worthless currency, but they drive their cattle over the frontier and return with consumer goods and petrol.

In Samu chiefdom in northern Sierra Leone there is a football pitch with one of the goals in Sierra Leone and the other in Guinea. It is hardly surprising that when the two countries' respective taxmen do their rounds in the area there are massive offshades.

Despite the maladministration, much publicised by the local press, and the depressing official financial figures, the economic mood here is not one of despair.

The fall in oil prices and the rise of up to 20 per cent in the price of non-oil commodities over the past six months puts some speck into the economic prognosis. Particularly encouraging is the strengthening of the diamond market, as well as progress in moves to harness the country's hydroelectric potential.

Even a modest world economic recovery would immediately help the profitability of the country's other mineral exports, gold, bauxite, iron ore and rutile.

Most important of all, in a continent much of which is suffering from every day, Sierra Leone's rains have just started to come and plentifully. And Africa is a continent where, for millions of people, rain is much more important than anything their Mercedes-riding ministers or men from the IMF may say or do.

There is another crucial reform the nation is crying out for. I have long argued that we must get policemen back on bicycles. (Do you remember the lovely way they used to "drap" their capes over the handlebars?) I'm sure that the criminal fraternity would soon see the error of their ways, follow suit, and abandon their souped-up jags.

No one of the wrong sort would ever join the force if pedals were as symbolic of police life as truncheons, walkie-talkies and black boots. It is its special virtue that it's impossible to be macho on a bike.

Godfrey Morrison

# Sound ideas to curb the klaxons

even it demands this constant drama. The noise they make becomes increasingly strident. Those of us brought up on police cars that simply rang a bell to warn of their approach found it hard enough to accept the change to a now deafening klaxon. Now they have imported a banshee wail which is peculiarly unsettling.

It is that noise, at once surreptitious and frightening, which fills the summer night as people sit by their open windows and watch American cop-shows on television. Hackney's police have succeeded in sounding - as they now also try to look, and perhaps behave - like something bad enough only to be transatlantic. Who on earth authorized these gadgets? They are so clearly an invitation for our policemen to take leave of their sensibilities.

We fight back, of course. The other day, a bobby neatly parked his Panda on a corner which had been brightly painted by an obliging traffic department to denote that parking there would be a nuisance to

other cars and pedestrians alike. He got out and strolled down the road to buy a paper.

With all that special bottle which comes uniquely to the man in a property-owning democracy who knows he is in the right, I took the children over to him as he got back into his car and begged him about what hope there could be for the ordinary citizen's respect for the law if the Law itself didn't have any.

On and on I droned, word-bombing him through his window. I even told him I would report him to the police if he did such a thing again, and we each allowed ourselves half a smile.

It was all wasted, I'm sure. Police drivers seem to flout all the sensible rules of the road, refusing to wear a seat belt, as every law-abiding Joe Blogs has to, and driving with a style that belongs properly only to a shaft with an oil-well in his backyard and a rubber plantation tucked away into the bargain.

I'm waiting now for a chance to flag down my next slow-moving policeman and get him to try cleaning the place up by booking the

thousands of motorists who every day litter our pavements with their cars. Apparently, by a piece of insanity, there is no law against being parked on the pavement; but there is a law which says you cannot drive on it. So every day, I'm going to argue, policemen would be gainfully employed booking these deplorable schlunks for having driven up the kerb. If the policeman could stay still long enough, he could wait till the motorist got in to drive off.

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Richard North

سكنا عن الاصل



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RIGHT, NOT NEED, TO KNOW

Secrecy is built into the calcium of a British policy-maker's bones. It is a physiological disorder which afflicts ministers and civil servants alike.

The British genius for administrative secrecy is honoured by many monuments. Trappist government is sustained by four Official Secrets Acts, and immensely tight rules for politicians in office enshrined in a secret document, Questions of Procedure for Ministers.

As if those defences were inadequate, connoisseurs of British secrecy find its most perfect expression in a bulky, obscure, yet highly important volume, Estacode, the Civil Service bible of "do's and don'ts".

Other western societies order things differently. In the United States, most of western Europe and in Commonwealth countries like Canada, Australia and New Zealand, whose systems of government are built on the Westminster-Whitehall model.

For Whitehall to step in line with Ottawa, Canberra and Wellington, the habits of a lifetime would have to be shed

from the Cabinet Office downwards. Labour and the Alliance believe that nothing less than shock therapy in the shape of a freedom of information act policed by the courts will dent the tradition of centuries.

At first glance, the gap between the Thatcher vision of "good government" and that of Labour and the Alliance seems unbridgeable. But is it? As an initial step towards an enhanced supply of official information and the opportunity for a better informed electorate, the Parliamentary road offers distinct possibilities.

So why not establish a new, all-party Select Committee on Official Information to work alongside the fourteen successfully commissioned to monitor Whitehall departments in 1979? The Government could publish a code of practice delineating areas that must remain closed - intelligence, security, some transactions with foreign powers, details of weapons design and performance, economic information given to Whitehall in confidence by companies, current Cabinet minutes and memoranda - while declaring open season on the rest.

need to involve the judiciary or the Ombudsman.

Such a prospectus is not likely to exert an instant appeal for its Prime Minister, and few of her predecessors have remained more communicative for long. It could appear a charter for "unhelpful" people - backbench MPs of the Dalyell school, the more irritating kind of journalist, the less responsible sort of pressure group, concerned with the subversion of civil administration or the organising of campaigns to preempt policies still in formulation.

It is a view that deserves a mite of sympathy. Running Britain through a vast bureaucracy in the 1980s is not easy. It is a mole catcher's nightmare. Even the most strong willed of prime ministers can, on occasion, feel powerless to influence events before they acquire unfinchable momentum.

"Knowledge is power. It is important to recognize that the issue of open government is about power, political power, a shift in power, its redistribution."

Lord Franks, who delivered that appraisal to an audience of senior civil servants in November 1978 when freedom of information was a very live issue in the last months of the Callaghan administration, also offered his prescription. It was for a reform that went with the grain of the British constitution. Keep the judges and the Ombudsman away from the issue, said Lord Franks. Parliament is the institution for this. Let there be a select committee on official information. Mrs Thatcher had reason in the recent past to be grateful for the judgment of Lord Franks. She should heed him on open government.

European model for Irish unity

From Sir John Biggs-Davison, Conservative candidate for Epping Forest

Sir, The New Ireland Forum is indeed "Dublin Castle in the air" (your second leader of today). For it presumes to include Northern Ireland with none of its parties present but the Social Democratic and Labour Party whose Dublin links helped destroy the Sunningdale constitution.

Unionist "distrust" will not be allayed by turning the Republic into a more permissive society. Such endeavours as Dr Garret FitzGerald's "crusade" have ignored, or underestimated, the small "A" of these islands, formed without prejudice, as in other European groups, to the sovereignty of the Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland? Their relations, styled "unique", are already closer than those of Commonwealth or Community.

Labour and EEC From Professor A.A. Dashwood Sir, It is important to be clear about the legal implications of the Labour Party's proposal to repeal the European Communities Act 1972 as soon as possible after gaining power. The object of repealing the Act would be to deprive Community law of its direct effect in the United Kingdom and its primacy over conflicting national law. The writ of the European Court of Justice would cease to run here and our own courts would no longer be able to give effect to the rights that Community law confers on individuals.

By thus repudiating the legal order of the Communities, the United Kingdom would put itself beyond the protection of that order. Even supposing that the other member states were willing to negotiate a new relationship with us, they would be under no obligation to maintain the status quo pending the outcome of the negotiations.

Our former partners might, of course, forgo the negotiating advantage that such action would give them. But a party that proposes to throw away all legal guarantees and rely on the goodwill (or even the good sense) of others is reckless indeed.

Our political naivety we assumed that the Liberals and SDP were separate organizations and contacted both. The Liberals (SDP) requested prepayment and the SDP quoted £1.00 per copy. We now know that both publish under a communal imprint called the Alliance. Plaid Cymru and the Scottish Nationalists (£1.00 each per copy) delivered promptly although the latter would not sell on commercial terms. We have telephoned the Communist Party several times but nobody answers.

As the National Union of Miners told him about the latter's part in the crisis of the Korean war, Maclean was not a truthful man and the story is evidently false. The false dates he gives are sufficient to refute it. The Chinese attack on MacArthur's forces came before, not after, Arthur's journey to Washington and confirmed their decision against the use of nuclear weapons. The attack was on November 21, 1950; Arthur arrived in Washington on December 3.

He also seems to have been told by Maclean that he had gone to Washington with Attlee on the occasion. I was one of those who accompanied Attlee, being then a Private Secretary at No. 10. I do not remember Maclean being with us; I am sure Attlee had no direct dealings with him.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, DAVID HUNT, The Athenaeum, Pall Mall, SW1 5ER, May 31.

From Miss Janet Barber Sir, Guy Rogers (May 27) urges on the possibility of "some third world people" eating rats; a tremendous number of course do, a fact revealed in an interesting report published recently titled "The importance and values of wild plants and animals in Africa".

Sudan, Zaire and Zambia are only three of the countries mentioned where rats and mice are an important food source. The availability of many other wild animals and of food can often mean the difference between life and death by starvation for people.

In Ghana, 75 per cent of the population depends largely on traditional sources of protein supply which include caterpillars, maggots, snails, puff adders and the Togo hare. When other food is scarce, crickets and locusts are eaten in Sudan, and in Africa as a whole ticks are "eaten gorged" and "antelope rumen contents" are taken as a beverage.

The report gives many other uses for wildlife, apart from food. Elephant and hippo fat is used as fuel, lion fat for a pomade, and the nest of the penduline tit for a purse.

Yours faithfully, JANET BARBER, Head of Conservation, Panda House, 11-13 Ockford Road, Godalming, Surrey, May 28.

From Mr Alan Franks Sir, In contrast to Mr Stolberger (May 31) I count myself fortunate these inclement days to be able to see the Rottingdean windmill some 500 yards from my house.

Yours faithfully, ALAN FRANKS, 17 Grand Crescent, Rottingdean, East Sussex, May 31.

From Mr Norman Walker Sir, Since that you consider that the election is about the endorsement or otherwise of Mrs Thatcher's style of government and her intentions to shift the political centre of gravity, may I point out that to date the polls indicate that more people are against than for. Unless they get over 50 per cent of the votes cast the Conservatives cannot be said to have the endorsement you suggest.

Yours faithfully, NORMAN WALKER, High Croft, Mark Cross, East Sussex, May 31.

From Mr Roy Medvedev in your issue of today reports a story that Maclean

'Gentlemen's agreement' still binding

From Marshall of the Royal Air Force Sir William Dickson

Sir, Many of your readers will have watched a television documentary entitled A Matter for Joint Decision which appeared on BBC 2 at 7.15 pm on May 29. It dealt with the stationing of cruise missiles in this country and the control of their use.

Since the programme raised some doubts about the American respect for the agreement reached between Mr Attlee and President Truman in 1951, which was confirmed in a joint communiqué by Mr Churchill and President Truman later I would like to record some points which are relevant to this vital issue.

I was concerned because in 1951/52 I was the Member of Air Council responsible for working out an agreement with General Leon Johnson of the United States Air Force to give effect to the Attlee/Truman agreement.

Many will have forgotten how this agreement arose. It dealt with what involved. It arose because our two Governments and our partners in Nato became greatly concerned about Soviet expansionist policies and saw the need to strengthen the deterrent to further Soviet adventures. The agreement lay in the American provision of the additional air power required and the British provision of the bases. It was an agreement based on mutual trust between two nations having a special relationship.

The agreement involved the establishment of some 39 bases for the American Air Force and the accommodation of several thousands of American airmen here in this country in peacetime. It had to cover all the problems involved in the operation of the American units, their maintenance and defence and in fitting them into the life of the country.

Two things made such a difficult undertaking possible. One was that the British public perceived the Soviet threat to their freedom and

Problems in buying manifestos

From Mr Alan L. Thomas

Sir, Mr Charles Rowlett in your issue today (letter, May 28) suggests that commercial outlets may be subject to bias in their selling of party manifestos. You may therefore be interested to learn of our own recent experience.

When the election was announced we began to receive enquiries from our customers for the various manifestos. Our first reaction was to direct them to the offices of the relevant party but this was not practical for the reasons given by Mr Rowlett. So to satisfy an obvious market demand, and in the interests of impartiality, we telephoned the headquarters of the main parties. Conservatives (25p) and Labour (60p) responded immediately.

In our political naivety we assumed that the Liberals and SDP were separate organizations and contacted both. The Liberals (SDP) requested prepayment and the SDP quoted £1.00 per copy. We now know that both publish under a communal imprint called the Alliance. Plaid Cymru and the Scottish Nationalists (£1.00 each per copy) delivered promptly although the latter would not sell on commercial terms. We have telephoned the Communist Party several times but nobody answers.

Yours sincerely, ALAN L. THOMAS, University Bookshop, Bailrigg, Lancaster, May 28.

From Mr Alan Midgley Sir, The Conservative victory at the polls to which Mr Arthur Scargill refers (your leader "Enemies of liberty" May 16) is likely to result from at least 55 per cent of the electorate voting against the Conservative Party.

As the National Union of Miners

Lush parking

From Mrs Olga Lloyd

Sir, In Morocco beautiful wild flowers grow in their varied thousands for miles right along the edge of the tarmac. The country roads are only just wide enough for two vehicles and the exhaust fumes are heavy, but the flowers flourish.

In this country flowers are not given much chance to flourish along the highways because we are so dotty about keeping the verges tidy. I have seen a council worker cutting down flowers on a Saturday so presumably he was working overtime to get on with the job and leave the verges neat and monotonous.

Yours faithfully, OLGA LLOYD, Garden House, 141a Ashby Road, Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire.

Tales of Maclean

From Sir David Hunt

Sir, Mr Roy Medvedev in your issue of today reports a story that Maclean

administration is giving military aid to Latin American regimes, which by objective standards are guilty of more horrific violations of human rights (as Lord Bethell's article in the same issue indicated).

More importantly the Universal Declaration, echoing the Declaration of Independence, gives the first human right as life itself. This holds a particular significance when there is a real possibility that global war could lead, either swiftly or through a more prolonged causal chain, to the extinction of mankind. Continued human existence is the necessary precondition of there being any human rights.

In such a context, the Czechoslovakian Charta 77 group were surely correct to argue in their letter for the adoption of the "common security" approach advocated by the Palme Report: that both super-powers

General Belgrano: the post-mortem

From Mr Michael Nicholson

Sir, Re the sinking of the General Belgrano. For the record: in a briefing aboard HMS Hermes, the then Task Force Commander, Admiral Sandy Woodward, told me and other correspondents and I quote from my notes at the time: "There's a cruiser nosing around the TEZ (Total Exclusion Zone) and I'm going to bloody it up now".

This briefing took place three days before the Belgrano was chased and sunk by HMS Conqueror.

On a more general point, rather pertinent and worth repeating in this rights and wrongs post-mortem. We had upwards of 10,000 soldiers at sea at that time. Very few of them had ever spent any time on ships, certainly none in the kind of seas we were experiencing then in the South Atlantic. We were approaching winter and they were being tossed around in ships that were badly equipped to carry them. It was as though the weather worsened there had to be a limit to how long we could stay before it was necessary to return to Ascension Island to recover. The longer the men were kept at sea the less their fighting effectiveness. It was simply a matter of time and it was not with us. We knew it. And so must Sir John Fieldhouse, Commander-in-Chief, have advised the Prime Minister.

The Junta were well aware of it too and who is to say that General Galtieri wasn't simply using Mr Haig, Costa Mendes and the Peruvians tactically? Because, for the Task Force to have turned back to Ascension to recuperate while the various peace plans were examined, would most certainly have killed the momentum out of the British military initiative and British public support.

The Prime Minister surely would not have risked that? Yours faithfully, MICHAEL NICHOLSON, 21 Bushwood Road, Kew, Surrey, May 31.

Backs to the walls

From Mr F. H. Thompson

Sir, I have always been fond, though I cannot remember the source, of that definition of the fine arts which concludes: "... and ornamental pastry-making, of which architecture is a minor branch." It came to mind with your architecture correspondent's analysis of 66 St James's Street (May 2), critically ambivalent but ending: "... a more than usually forceful representative of modern architecture in London and carried through with some panache."

Nobody seems to have been provoked enough to reply, so may I express dissent? St James's Street is very mixed in character but has the merit of width, which allows the passer by to look at the buildings which flank it. They range from good, through middling, to bad, but they blend into a reasonable mix, apart from No 66. "Ah", the architects will say, "give it time and you will grow to accept it, even if it isn't very good architecture."

I wonder, particularly when the Economist building opposite is such a shining example of modernity allied with taste. No 66 is vulgar and I think will always seem so. Was the architect trying to shock the members of Boodle's? If so, he is not having much success as the occupants all seem to have their backs to No 66 when I pass. Yours faithfully, F. H. THOMPSON, Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1, May 11.

Shooting to eat

From Miss Janet Barber

Sir, Guy Rogers (May 27) urges on the possibility of "some third world people" eating rats; a tremendous number of course do, a fact revealed in an interesting report published recently titled "The importance and values of wild plants and animals in Africa".

Sudan, Zaire and Zambia are only three of the countries mentioned where rats and mice are an important food source. The availability of many other wild animals and of food can often mean the difference between life and death by starvation for people.

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Yours faithfully, JANET BARBER, Head of Conservation, Panda House, 11-13 Ockford Road, Godalming, Surrey, May 28.

On a clear day

From Mr Alan Franks

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Yours faithfully, ALAN FRANKS, 17 Grand Crescent, Rottingdean, East Sussex, May 31.

TOUJOURS L'ALLIANCE

It is hardly surprising that President Mitterrand is not Moscow's favourite Western leader. Of the eight heads of state or government who attended the Williamsburg summit last weekend and put their names to the statement on arms control, he is the one singled out for abuse by Pravda. That is not because he is necessarily more anti-Soviet than the other seven, but rather because, under his predecessors, Moscow had come to rely on France being the odd man out at such gatherings. M Mitterrand has failed to live up to the Soviet idea of what a French head of state should be.

In part, therefore, Pravda's attack on him yesterday can be read as an outburst of chagrin d'amour. But it is unlikely to be just that. Nothing is published in Pravda without due deliberation, without having an object in view.

If the Soviet leaders think it worth hammering away at M Mitterrand, it is no doubt because they regard him as vulnerable. Not that he is likely to change his mind, but that

there is a chance of stirring up controversy in France about the wisdom and the extent of his Atlanticism. They know that, while M Mitterrand is indeed a staunch ally of the United States on defence issues, on many other issues there are still very serious differences between Paris and Washington.

France is trying to blame the United States for some of her (in fact mainly home-grown) economic troubles. France's Socialist government, with its seasoning of Communist ministers, remains slightly suspect in Washington's eyes. France is a troublesome critic of American foreign policy, especially in Latin America. And France remains deeply suspicious of any American attempt to extend the role of Nato, whether functionally (into the economic sphere) or geographically (into the Middle East or the Third World). Any hint that the annual economic summits might be institutionalized into a kind of Western Security Council meets with immediate French resistance, and the "new Atlantic Charter" once proposed

by Dr Henry Kissinger remains a powerful French bogey.

Indeed, French prickliness on this score all but stopped the Williamsburg statement on arms control from seeing the light, as the Russians are well aware, and no sooner had the text been made public than M Cheysson felt obliged to reiterate France's refusal to accept any extension of the Atlantic alliance.

So when they accuse M Mitterrand of selling out to Nato (or words to that effect), the Soviet leaders know that they are touching on a raw nerve. Yet when Pravda asks, as if making a novel and damning accusation, "whether France, although it has pulled out of Nato's military wing, has ever ceased to be a member of the Atlantic alliance or renounced its commitments as an ally", it is really only revealing the depths of misunderstanding aroused by de Gaulle's policies, in Moscow as elsewhere. For in reality the answer to that question has never been in doubt. France can be a very awkward ally, but she remains an ally for all that.

PENSION FUND POLITICS

The Labour manifesto states that one of the ways in which it will finance its massive programme is to channel private savings into what a Labour government would believe were deserving areas of investment. "There is no shortage of savings in the country available for borrowing today. Indeed vast amounts of British money are flowing into overseas investment," it says. That overseas investment would be stopped by immediate exchange control. Once contained within the United Kingdom, capital would then be directed under the authority of the whole apparatus in planning set out in the manifesto. The manifesto itself makes clear in respect of the clearing banks that if they did not "co-operate fully" in this process a Labour government would stand ready to "take one or more of them into public ownership".

When Mr Foot was questioned about this on television he made it quite clear that such a fate would indeed befall financial institutions whose investment policies did not come into line with the ideas and directions of his government. That determination to control the direction of private investment, added to the admission that private savings would be exploited to fulfil the government's investment plans, immediately raises the question of pension funds.

Hitherto occupational pension funds have been run entirely for the benefit of the pensioners who have contributed to them. A shareholder who holds shares in a company threatened by such governmental action as that postulated by Mr Foot can, after all, switch his investment out of

that company if he feels its investment policies are being distorted for political reasons rather than the furtherance of the profit motive. But the same flexibility is not the privilege of a pensioner. What happens to pensioners and their pension expectations, when their funds are directed in accordance with ministerial taste? The answer given in the Labour manifesto is that a Labour government would introduce a new Pension Scheme Act to strengthen members rights, clarify the role of trustees and give members a right to equal representation - but only through their trade unions - on controlling bodies of each scheme.

Fortunately a working model of a pension fund so influenced by trade union trustees already exists. It is the Mineworkers Pension Fund. Since Mr Scargill became leader of the NUM he and his union colleagues on the board of trustees have given vivid proof of what fate awaits all occupational pension funds under a Labour government. There will be a danger that political factors in the minds of trade union leaders will utterly pre-empt the investment policies of pension funds, regardless of the fact that while the trade union leaders can afford to indulge their political prejudices because they do not stand to benefit from the pension scheme, those people whom they purport to represent will be the losers.

The NCB/Mineworkers Pension Fund has a board of trustees which is split equally between representatives of management and of the NUM. The chairman has no casting vote. So provided

that Messrs Scargill, McGahey, Daly and their other union colleagues stick together they can block any investment policy and ultimately create havoc in the management of the funds.

That is what has occurred in the last two years. Mr Scargill and his friends have refused to endorse the new investment plan for the fund, although it has received the approval of the management committee and the advisory panel on NCB pension fund investment. Mr Scargill decided that all investment in oil shares and any other energy source should be sold. Secondly he sought to veto investment both in overseas real estate and in any industrial enterprise overseas.

The trade unionists do not have the power to place investment. Perhaps that is just as well since they might feel compelled to put their members pensions at the risk of things like the Meriden Co-Operative, or British Leyland. But they do have the power to prevent funds managers from investing their resources in a dynamic economic environment where the actuarial necessities of pension liabilities require frequent changes in investment plans.

The Mineworkers Pension Fund will thus suffer from the paralysis which Mr Scargill has inflicted on it for purposes which have more to do with his general political philosophy than the particular wellbeing of miners' pensions. If that is to be one of the ways the Labour Party mobilizes funds for its emergency programme it can have no attraction for occupational pensioners.



سوق من الامل

### Investment and Finance

City Editor  
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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#### STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 704.6 down 7.9  
FT Gilt: 82.17 down 0.13  
Bargains: 19.691  
Tring Hall USM Index: 168.3 down 0.9  
Tokyo: 8549.70 down 67.87  
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 923.15 up 4.56  
New York: Dow Jones Average (latest) 1201.24 up 1.26

#### CURRENCIES

**LONDON CLOSE**  
Sterling \$1.5905 down 1.4 cents  
Index 87.4 down 0.4  
DM 4.0550 down 0.0025  
FF 12.20 up 0.450  
Yen 381.75 down 2.0  
Dollar  
Index 124.8 up 0.8  
DM 2.5489 up 134 pts  
Gold  
\$413 down \$22.50  
**NEW YORK LATEST**  
Gold \$410.00  
Sterling \$1.5910

#### INTEREST RATES

**Domestic rates:**  
Base rates 10  
3 month interbank 10 1/8-10 1/16  
**Euro-currency rates:**  
3 month dollar 9 1/8-9 1/16  
3 month DM 5 1/8-5 1/16  
3 month 14-13 1/2  
**ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling**  
Export Finance Scheme IV  
Average reference rate for interest period March 2 to April 5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent.

#### PRICE CHANGES

Norton Simon £15.875, up £1.815  
Hollas 31p up 3p  
Air Mail Call 318p up 28p  
Austelronic 13p up 1p  
FACE 40p up 3p  
W. Jacks 46p up 3p  
W. Ingram 50p down 6p  
Wickling P-coast 42p down 5p  
Photaprint 9p down 1p  
Middlesex Wires £11.50, down £1.125  
Hamlinax 33p down 3p  
Wearwell 55p down 4p

#### TODAY

Interims: AE, British Petroleum, Carr's Milling, Habitz/Mothercare (9 months), Hickson Int'l.  
Finals: Beascham, Bishop's Grp., Castings, Century Oils, Harrison and Crosfield, Rowlinson, Triefus, UBM.  
Economic statistics: UK official reserves (May), capital issues and redemptions (during May)

#### Plan for new US trade ministry

● Reagan Administration officials have announced a proposal for a new department of international trade and industry.  
The plan, subject to Congress approval would consolidate the trade operations of the Commerce Department and the policy functions of the office of the US Trade Representative in one agency, which would incorporate the economic patent and trade functions.  
● The Defence Ministry has selected Plessey Radar's Watchman system as the new air defence surveillance radar for RAF Airfields in Britain and overseas.

#### IRAN DEAL: Volvo, the Swedish motor, energy and food group, has signed a deal to deliver about 6,000 heavy trucks to Iran over the next 18 months.

● TIN ACCORD: Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, which produce 73 per cent of the world's tin, will soon sign an agreement to establish the association of tin producing countries, Indonesia's official Antara news agency said yesterday.  
● SKYSHIP SALE: Airship Industries, and Placo of Southern Africa, have come to an agreement for the sale of the first Skyship to be delivered to Africa in a £2m deal.

#### DANISH ORDER: Myra Beresford and Liz Page, two Derbyshire women who started making French style underwear when they were made redundant, have received a £3,000 contract from Denmark.

● PROFIT SHARING: More than 1,000 employees of Hewlett-Packard received cash profit-sharing cheques totalling almost £400,000, during the last financial year of the company. Hewlett-Packard sales for the first half of 1983 were £2,227.7m (£1.39m) up 13 per cent over the first half of last year.

## WALL STREET Shares gain strength

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - The stock market gained strength on moderate turnover yesterday and analysts attributed the turnaround from opening lows to favourable developments on interest rates. The Dow Jones industrial average rose by more than a point.  
The Dow Jones transportation average was up a point and quarter paced by the airlines with AMR Corp up 1/4, UAL Inc. up 1/2 and Delta up 1/4. Treasury securities rebounded in early trading and shortly before noon the Federal Reserve Board confirmed that it was doing repurchase agreements which the market interpreted as easing pressure on interest rates.  
On Tuesday, stocks rebounded from their early lows and the pace of trading became light. Market attention was dominated by concern about a \$2.1bn increase in the basic money supply. The Dow Jones industrial average was down about 2.5 points on Tuesday.

## Expansion go-ahead for Aircall

Aircall, the British communications company, has been awarded a 12-year licence to expand its services in mobile radio communication which will enable it to provide an automatic national service.  
According to Aircall director, Mr Walter Stevenson the licence is "something we have been after for 30 years. We are glad that we were awarded it in the last days of this government".  
The licence gives the communications company more frequencies to offer services between mobiles by radio. The company will now be able to allow its customer to automatically interconnect with their network instead of an operator's intervention.  
The company which last year had a turnover of £15m and a profit of £1m employs about 1500 staff throughout Britain and confidently predicts that the new licence award will allow them to increase their 25,000 customer base and the number of employees by 20 per cent.  
Over £2.5m will be spent by the group over the next twelve months in the initial phase of updating its network so that it can maximise the benefits offered by the new licence. The company will last year refused a mobile radio licence using a technique called "cellular radio". The two licences were awarded to British Telecom/Securitor and another to a consortium headed by Racal.  
Aircall recently bought Teledata which is also expected to play an integral part in the new service offered by the company.  
According to a statement issued by the company: "Entirely new enhanced services will include pocket radio telephones and data terminals portable two way telecommunications with a range of advanced facilities. These will be available nationwide on Aircall's UHF and VHF radio telecommunications services".

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Last night neither Fitch, Safeway, or Linford had any comment to make about their next move. Mr. Hankins at Fitch had previously indicated that the next move should come from Linford.

## Coalite profits rise

Coalite, the fuel production and distribution group which is also the owner of the Falkland Islands Company, yesterday reported a £3.48m increase in pretax profits to £27.34m for the year to the end of last March.  
The Falkland Islands Company, which dominates the economy of the dependency, managed to improve its contribution to the results despite the disruption of the Argentinian invasion.  
Coalite is attempting to develop the company away from its heavy dependence on sheep farming. It has begun negotiations with unnamed British, foreign and Falkland islander interests to begin deep sea fishing in waters that are rich in hake and squid.  
Meanwhile a short list of six families out of several hundred applicants has been drawn up to go to the Falklands to make use of company land in activities other than sheep farming.

## Opec production rise forecast

Crude oil output from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries could rise from its present 16 million barrels a day to an average of 18 million barrels daily in the final quarter of this year, Shaikh AH Khalifa al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti oil minister, said yesterday.  
The minister was reported by the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Watan as saying that economic growth in the West, the depletion of oil stocks, and Opec's adherence to the price and production agreement reached earlier this year would cause the rise.  
London analysts pointed out, however, that an increase of this magnitude was common in the last quarter as the northern hemisphere winter pushed up demand. They were also sceptical about the relationship between faster gross national product growth and demand

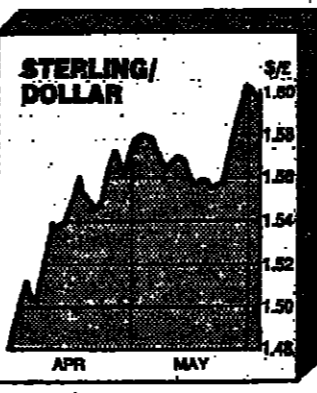
## Storm warning at ECGD

There are two views about the way Britain conducts its export credit business. The one, held by speculators, is that - like cricket, rugby and football - Britain invented a game which others now play better.  
The other, held by the players, is that the name of the game had changed, and that an element of de-sponsorship has been introduced, officially called "rescheduling".  
Countries rescheduling their debts are, to the export credit insurers, like isobars on a meteorologist's map. The more there are around, the stormier the weather ahead.  
The beneficiaries, namely exporters, believe that, inevitably, the truth lies somewhere in between - and the House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts has just been exploring that middle ground.  
In reviewing the role and effectiveness of the Export Credit Guarantee Department, its report this week ended up both slightly to the right and left of centre.  
ECGD has used merchant banks to analyse companies' balance sheets and financial prospects. But, the committee concluded: "We are not convinced that enough is yet being done to draw upon private sector expertise."  
On the other hand, the Treasury was given a nudge towards recruiting more civil servants for ECGD. It must give "particular attention" to future staff ceilings, given the £30bn a year in British trade which is at risk.  
ECGD had 200 people lopped from its various branches just when it was heading into its most hectic period. And its best people get poached by the private sector. The financial isobars, meanwhile are stacking up alarmingly. There are 21 countries in the process of rescheduling - which compares with the only occasion when ECGD was forced into the red, when Brazil alone had to do so in the Fifties.  
A judgment that ECGD does not possess sufficient information and that there is a lack of penetrative analysis "will no doubt grate a few teeth among specialists who tour risky countries."  
The very nature of their work takes them into less-than-comfortable places: one was in Lebanon when the US embassy was devastated.  
The impact of political considerations on ECGD was exemplified by the way certain

## Gold falls \$23 and leads market retreat

# Prices tumble across the board as rising dollar saps confidence

Markets took flight yesterday at the sight of the strengthening dollar and attendant expectations of higher interest rates. Prices fell across a broad range of equities, commodities and securities, the collapse being led by gold which tumbled \$23.50 to close in London at \$413 an ounce.  
In the London stock market, election nerves and Tuesday's 16-point Wall Street fall caused a sharp reaction from record highs. The Financial Times Index of Britain's top 30 companies dropped 10.7 at its worst to 701.8.  
But dealers reported little selling and by the close, the index was down 7.9 points at 701.6. The Dow Jones industrial average opened at 1201.24, up 1.26 points at 1201.24. Stockmarkets in South Africa and Continental Europe retreated.  
Gilt were less disturbed, however, the losses among long-dated stocks being only about



The price of the World Bank's 10.375 per cent notes due in April 1988 fell 1.38 to 97.3, for example, and heavier losses in percentage terms were recorded among zero-coupon bonds.  
On the London Metal Exchange the recent bull market went into reverse. Copper, still a significant indicator of industrial demand and of base metal prices generally, fell. The three months higher grade contract ended £10 down at £1,106.7 a tonne. Lead and tin more or less held their positions, but zinc and aluminium lost ground.  
Traders in the bullion market

The dollar steamed ahead in currency markets yesterday, supported by firmer dollar interest rates and worries that the Federal Reserve may tighten up on monetary policy, writes Peter Wilson-Smith. The dollar's strength left sterling lower and an early bout of profit-taking also knocked the pound against Continental currencies.  
The latest opinion polls showing a narrowing of the Conservatives' lead and a big selling order out of Switzerland were behind the fall. But

sterling recovered closing only marginally down against Continental currencies, although 1.4 cents lower at \$1.5905 against the dollar. Its trade-weighted value was 0.4 easier at 87.4.  
Concern about US interest rates, which the Williamsburg summit has done nothing to alleviate, dominated the markets. Eurodollar rates firmed by about 1/4 per cent and the key US Fed Funds rate opened 1/2 per cent higher. With the foreign exchange markets far from convinced that US anti-

inflation will take action to lower interest rates or intervene to dampen the dollar, the US currency hit a record high against the French franc and closed 134 points up against the Deutschmark at DM2.5489 after touching DM2.5515.  
Rising international interest rates were reflected in action of four major Swiss banks who raised interest rates on customer time deposits by 1/4 per cent to 4 per cent - the second rise in a week.  
Silver and platinum also succumbed to selling pressure. The three months London silver price declined 50p to \$11-815p an ounce. Platinum was fixed in the afternoon at £266.50, a fall of £26 an ounce.

## Linford decision day in takeover battle

Linford Holdings has to decide today whether to make an outright bid for the Fitch Lovell food group, or continue to bid separately for the 100 Key Markets stores owned by Fitch.  
Until now Linford has had the option of continuing the fight for the Key Markets group by matching the £44.8m offered by Safeway last week, or renewing its takeover ambitions for the whole of the Fitch group, which is capitalized at £104m. However under Takeover Panel rules Linford has to make a fresh bid for Fitch within three weeks of the publication of the Monopolies Commission's report which gave the go-ahead for a merger between the two companies exactly three weeks ago on May 12.  
In the City there has been intense speculation that Linford is preparing to make another bid for the Fitch group. Linford's original offer terms valued the Fitch group at £72m, but since then Fitch has appointed Mr Geoffrey Hankins as the new chief executive, who has outlined plans for restructuring the group around its food manufacturing businesses.



Hankins: restructuring group round food business.

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Coalite Group  
Year to 31.3.83  
Pretax profit £27.34m (£23.86m)  
Share earnings 18.26p (18.20p)  
Turnover £415.93m (£408.87m)  
Net interim dividend 3.5p making 5.05p (4.53p)

## Banks start card fraud campaign

The high street banks are stepping up the battle against cheque and credit-card fraud, which costs them £35m a year, with a big poster campaign aimed at cutting down card theft.  
The banks might soon introduce a more secure type of cheque card. They lost £20m last year on cheque card fraud and have been studying options such as putting customer's photographs on cheque cards or encoding signatures so they cannot be changed.  
A decision will be made within a couple of months. "We are close to a decision on a safer card," Mr Jim Parsons, secretary of the Committee of London Clearing Bankers' bank cheque card committee said yesterday.

## Collett to buy itself back from Hambros

The directors of Collett, Dickenson, Pearce, one of Britain's most renowned advertising agencies, are bringing the agency from Hambros Bank, which stepped into provide much-needed financial support in 1979.  
They are paying £1.9m for a 75 per cent stake in Solbourne, the company controls CDP, and are repaying loans of £2.9m to Hambros. The bank paid £225,000 for its holding in Solbourne.  
CDP was a public company until an Inland Revenue investigation of the then chairman and managing director in 1978. The agency is best known for its creative advertising for clients like Benson & Hedges, Cinzano.

## Rain hits beer recovery

The first hopes of a recovery in beer sales in Britain after two bad years are being washed out by bad weather. Beer production in April, the first month badly hit by rain, fell 3.8 per cent.  
Brewers' Society returns yesterday showed that in April 2.86 million bulk barrels were brewed compared with 2.97 million in the same month last year.

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# Matthew Hall

Public Limited Company

### INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING DESIGNERS AND CONTRACTORS

## A decade of growth

Matthew Hall's activities in 1982 were affected by the worldwide recession but, despite this, profit before taxation for the year amounted to £11.6 million compared with £10.3 million for the previous year.  
This has completed ten years of uninterrupted profit growth from £2.0 million in 1973 to the present level now reported by Mr Dennis Garrett, Chairman, in his Annual Statement to shareholders.  
A final dividend of 4.944p per Ordinary Share is proposed, making a total for the year of 6.139p - an increase of 20%.  
Improved profits from the mechanical and electrical engineering businesses - most of which are now regrouped in the UK under a single company, Matthew Hall Mechanical & Electrical Engineers Limited - were primarily as a result of an increased contribution from Matthew Hall Mechanical Services Limited. This was achieved despite a difficult climate in the construction industry.  
The substantial increase in the oil, gas and chemical engineering companies' results has stemmed principally from the UK and Australia, but Barnard & Burk Group Inc. in the USA suffered from the recession there.  
Investment in mining worldwide has been curtailed, especially in North America, and this had a significant impact on activity. However, in the UK the results were comparable with those of the previous year. Pincock, Allen & Holt, of Tucson, Arizona - a well-known specialist mining and engineering consultancy group - was acquired by the Group in 1982 and is well placed to take advantage of any upturn.  
Concluding his statement, Mr Garrett says: "There are signs of a slight improvement in the UK but we have yet to be convinced that this will be a continuing rise. In the USA, the Stock Market is buoyant but this has yet to be reflected in increased industrial activity and the effect of the policies of the new Government in Australia has still to be evaluated.  
However, the Board believes that the Group will continue to advance in 1983."

Summary of Results	1982	1981
	£000	£000
Turnover	413,154	329,248
Profit before taxation	11,635	10,344
Taxation	3,981	2,085
Profit attributable to shareholders	7,653	8,264
Shareholders' funds	40,592	34,157
Dividends per share (gross)	8.77p	7.309p
Earnings per share	22.39p	24.18p

The Summary of Results shown above is an abridged version of the audited accounts which have been and will be filed with the Registrar of Companies. The Auditors' reports are unqualified.

The Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held on Friday, 24th June, 1983.  
Copies of the Annual Report 1982, containing the Chairman's Statement in full and a Review of the Year may be obtained from the Secretary, Matthew Hall PLC, 101-108 Tottenham Court Road, London W1A 1BT. Telephone: 01-636 3676.

### City Comment

## A company without measure

Could British Airports Authority be the first company to come to the stock market on the basis of current cost accounting? The question is an intriguing one since BAA is high on the list for privatization under a new Tory government and, because of its unusual activity of running airports, it does its accounts on a CCA basis anyway; it and its financial advisers, Schroders, might be hard pushed to produce a sensible prospectus on a historic cost basis.

## Runways depreciate

This is not a criticism. When you are running an investment programme of around £100m a year on a turnover of £300m a year, historic cost accounting does not make a great deal of sense. This point is emphasized by the fact that airport runways - unlike, for example, retail stores - depreciate, and quickly. Airports themselves also get out of date quickly.

On a historic cost basis, therefore, BAA would have to revalue its assets at least every other year if the valuation were to mean anything at all. On the other hand, a CCA basis presents BAA, the Government (assuming a Conservative victory) and Schroders with a tricky problem. The dilemma of the Stock Exchange would be even worse.

## No agreed rules

For the vendors there would be two big problems: in the first place, there would be no comparable company against which to measure BAA; and second, it would be trying to sell a very novel commodity to a conservative market.  
The Stock Exchange Council would be even worse off. There are no agreed rules on CCA, and so provisions for a prospectus on that basis.



MARKET REPORT by Andrew Cornelius

Framlington up to 700p

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings begin, May 23. Dealings end, June 3. Contango Day, June 6. Settlement Day, June 13.

USM stocks made most of the running on the markets yesterday with five newcomers making impressive debuts. Leading the way was Framlington, the unit trust group, which opened at 620p and moved ahead to 700p against a placing price of 400p. Cobra Emerald Mines, the South African emerald mining company, also opened at a significant premium, 13p ahead of the 63p placing price. It closed 16p ahead at 79p.

Elsewhere most of the leading shares tumbled causing the FT index to fall 7.9 points. It closed at 704.6. A poll showing reduced support for the Conservative Party put pressure on interest rates and even the Derby was cited as a reason for the poor performance and generally quiet trading. Gents followed the easier

After slipping 6p the shares rallied 2p to 276p on news that Safeway had expressed interest in the Linford share register. Meanwhile Fitch Lovell shares were down 2p at 150p.

BTR continued to build up its stake in Thomas Tilling buying another 3 million shares. In the market at the bid price of 226p. The shares held firm closing at that level.

This latest buying spree means that BTR owns 24 per cent of the Tilling share capital. Should BTR secure one per cent more it will be in a position to block the demerger proposals which are the mainstay of the Tilling bid defence.

Bank shares fell away as the pound weakened with National Westminster falling 15p to 605p. Midland came off 12p to 403p and Barclays closed down 11p at 485p.

Oil prices were also sluggish ahead of today's first-quarter figures from BP which are expected to show pretax profits of about £95m against £91m at the same stage last year. BP shares fell 4p to close at 386p while the revival of bid speculation lifted Tritelystrol by 8p to 220p.

The Hawley Group confirmed details of its rights issue which were printed in The Times yesterday. The directors of Hawley said there had been an 88.3 per cent uptake from shareholders for the £14.4m issue and that the balance of the shares were placed in the market at 159.4p against the offer price of 146p. Hawley shares were down 1p at the close to 159p.

Shares of Banzel, the paper and packaging group, held firm at 325p.

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RECENT ISSUES table with columns for company name, price, and other details.

1982/83 High Low Company Price Ch'ge % P/E table listing various companies and their stock performance.

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THE TIMES 1000 1982/83 The World's Top Companies. The top 1000 UK companies with all essential details.

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Sterling: Spot and Forward

Table showing Sterling spot and forward rates for various locations like New York, Amsterdam, etc.

Money Market Rates

Table showing Money Market Rates including clearing bank rate, discount rate, and week fixed rates.

Other Markets

Table showing Other Markets including Australia, Belgium, France, Germany, etc.

Dollar Spot Rates

Table showing Dollar Spot Rates for various countries like Ireland, Canada, Netherlands, etc.

Euro-£ Deposits

Table showing Euro-£ Deposits for various countries like Ireland, Germany, France, etc.

Gold

Table showing Gold prices and related information.

Advertisement for Base Landing Rates and other services, featuring a logo and contact information.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Leeds Group
Half year to
Pretax profit, £509,000 (£504,000)
Stated earnings 8.5p
Turnover, £24.2m Net interim dividend, 1.5p (1.25p, adjusted)

Unexpected repayments lift De La Rue

De La Rue
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £21.7m (£21.9m)
Stated earnings 8.5p (8.5p)
Turnover £226m (£204m)
Net dividend 23.5p (22.08p)
Share price 810p, up 10p. Yield 5.5%

Nigeria. But De La Rue's partner there is the Nigerian mint and its associated printing company which meets a heavy demand for banknotes from the large population.

There is no shortage of countries wishing to buy De La Rue's high technology banknote printing equipment. The trick is finding customers able to pay for it.

Late paying by Third World customers was one reason for a hefty £9m provision in the results reported a year ago. Now some unexpected repayments which are still coming through have left the company in the position of being able to reverse in the 1983 results the greater part of those provisions which were put down to political and economic uncertainties.

But this change has been masked by the problems at Crossfield, the electronic division which increased its loss from £4.8m to £5.5m. De La Rue makes no secret of its disappointment with the result and hopes that a new managing director with managing under pressure and there is little optimism about a rapid turnaround. Short term it has had to take a much harder view of debts related to older equipment.

Also a new scanner has proved so successful that it has killed sales of earlier generation models. The contribution from associated companies increased from £6.6m to £9m, something which looks remarkable considering one of them is in

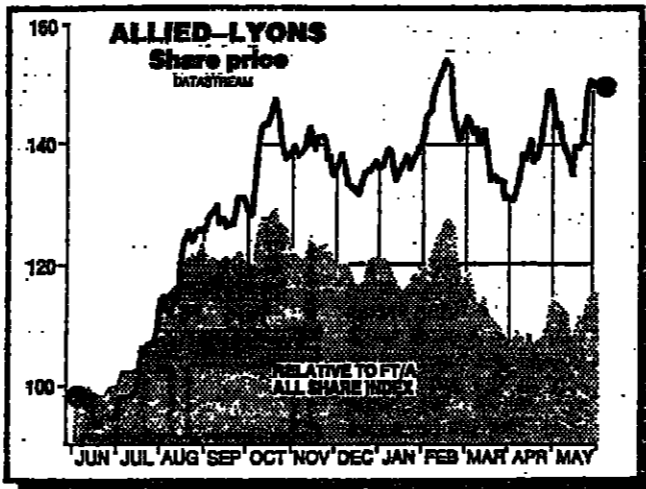
Security Express almost maintained its profits though results are overshadowed by the Easter theft of £6.5m from its London depot. The cash was insured and in two months no customers appear to have been lost. When yearly contract renegotiations come up there could be a different story, according to the company spokesman. New customers are still being taken on.

DLR Systems - which makes bank note sorting machinery for customers like the Bank of England - increased profits substantially after last year's turnaround from several years of losses.

Printark, the computerized finger print recording system, could make a profit this year, which is much earlier than expected. This year should see an improvement in profits with most of the increase again coming in the second half. But De La Rue remains vulnerable to the vagaries of its customers and a real improvement Crossfield looks a long way off.

Allied-Lyons

What Sir Derrick Holden-Brown, chairman of Allied-Lyons, the brewing and foods group, describes as "five long years of slog" in restructuring and getting the group's cost base right is finally beginning to pay dividends. Pretax profits for the



Year to March 5 were 13 per cent ahead at £159.6m. After stripping out lower property disposal profits, the performance looks even better with an advance of 17 per cent.

Against very difficult trading conditions especially in the brewing industry where volume was down 3 per cent last year, that must be seen as a creditable performance despite the appar-

appear lack-lustre by comparison.

Allied suffered from pedestrian performances in the foods, wines, spirits and soft drinks parts of the group. But on the brewing side, where trading profits rose 32 per cent to £76.3m, the group's achievement is hardly less spectacular than of Bass.

It is in the beer sector that the group has concentrated its restructuring operation, reducing the cost base and reinstating the local identities of its breweries. Last year Allied substantially outperformed the industry by holding its volume sales, that was partly as a result of a continued recovery from the effects of the Anells brewery closure dispute in January 1981, which kept Anells beer out of the free trade for six months.

Whether this outperformance can be extended to the current year is open to doubt. Recent

figures from the Brewing Society showed beer volume down a further 3 per cent in April and Allied does not dispute that this figure coincides with its own experience. Profits should nevertheless continue to benefit from improved efficiency. The foods division, where the group has made some important US acquisitions, should also begin to take up the lead in profit growth.

Speculation on a possible rights issue has led to some underperformance in the group's share price since the beginning of this year. But the balance sheet, with debt gearing down to 28 per cent, has not been stronger since pre-lyons acquisition days in 1978.

In the absence of any big acquisition apparently in sight, there is no need for new equity finance. With profits of over £180m possible in 1983/4, the shares look poised for an upward rating.

London Scottish Finance

London Scottish Finance
Half-year to 28.4.83
Pretax profit £284,000 (£282,000)
Turnover £4.87m (£5.32m)
Net interim dividend 0.75p (0.60p)
Share price 48p, up 2p
Dividend payable 29.7.83 for 39 weeks

The recession has led to rising arrears and some slow down in advances growth at London Scottish Finance but the group has still produced a healthy rise in profits in the half year to April 26.

Pretax profits of £284,000 compare with £282,000 in the 39 weeks to April 1982.

Adjusting for the longer first half in 1982 gives an underlying increase of 76 per cent although this is rather flattering because the earlier period was hit by bad weather and high interest rates.

Specializing in cash advances and personal collection at the bottom end of the consumer market, London Scottish sees itself as a leader of last resort to the unbanked or those who would not qualify for credit from the clearers. The cost of door-to-door collection means lending rates range from about 30 to 120 per cent on an annual percentage rate basis.

Advances have grown by about £11m net from the £22m in the October accounts which represents some slowing in growth because of recession and a higher rate of rejections on loan applications. The proportion of the portfolio in arrears has also risen from around a fifth to a quarter but the door-to-door collection system ensures few actual write-offs.

With personnel costs accounting for four-fifths of overheads, slowing inflation is a boon to London Scottish and the resilience the group has already demonstrated suggests profits could reach about £1.5m this compared with £1.35m in the 65 weeks to last October.

Total dividends of 3.57p gross are forecast compared with 3.05p (adjusted for the scripps) for 1st year's 65 week period. Yielding 7.3 per cent the shares are sound although the market is small.

APPOINTMENTS

Insurance director named

Mr Frederick Grant has been appointed a director of National Employers' Mutual General Insurance Association.

Mr Keith Bolshaw has been appointed commercial director of British Airways Helicopters.

Mr Arnold Q. Hitchcock has been appointed a general director of NFU Mutual.

Mr A. G. Tritton has been appointed a vice president of the Equitable Life Assurance Society to succeed Mr R. Leigh-Pemberton who has retired as a result of his appointment as Governor of the Bank of England.

Mr Jack Mawdsley has been appointed a director of Tarmac Roadstone Holdings and assistant managing director of Tarmac Roadstone. Mr Des Andrews has been appointed Tarmac Roadstone's director of administration.

Mr Brian Morris has been appointed managing director of Metroctec. He was previously deputy managing director of D. Anderson and Son and will remain an executive director of the company with responsibility for finance and administration.

Mr Paul Bloomfield has joined the board of Dewey Warren & Company as director responsible for all direct casualty and property business emanating from North America.

Mr Graham L. Drake and Mr Keith R. Egerton have been appointed joint managing directors of County and District Properties and its subsidiaries. Mr Leslie W. Melville, formerly managing director, will continue as chairman.

Mr A. S. Cormack has been appointed a partner by Armitage & Norton.

Mr Stuart Alexander has been appointed a director of consulting engineers, Kennington Little International of London and Doha.

Mr L. N. Marden (chairman, Golding Collins) has been elected president of the Insurance Institute of London.

COMMODITIES

Table with multiple columns listing commodity prices for metals, oil, sugar, and wool.

Mild Christmas cheers H Samuel second half

By Jonathan Clare
Mild weather over the vital Christmas sales period helped H. Samuel, the jewellers, make a second-half profit of almost £5m offsetting the first-half loss of £1.7m.

"Christmas the year before was a disaster. Branches in South Wales remained closed because staff could not get to work because of the snow," Mr Stephen Genilli, the joint managing director, said. The better second half meant profits for the year were £3.3m against £5.3m. The first two months of the current year were quiet although April and May were stronger. "But I would feel happier if I knew why," said Mr Genilli.

Operating expenses have been reduced by cutting staff numbers through wastage but further savings there will be difficult to make. Margins have not been squeezed as hard as might have been expected due in part to H. Samuel's "buying in depth" policy which allows it to run promotions at competitive prices through bulk buying. Precious metals buying policies remain the same but the company has learned its lesson from the painful decision to write down values. The successful experiment with five concessions within Debenhams department stores will be expanded. The balance sheet remains strong and has healthy liquidity. An internal property revaluation has thrown up a surplus of £42m over book valuation. The dividend has been maintained at 6.25p

Dome Petroleum slips on talk of report

By John Lawless
Shares in financially-troubled Dome Petroleum slipped on the London market yesterday from an overnight 32 1/2p to 31p on news from Calgary that only a progress report on its survival plan will be presented at its annual meeting on June 28. Dome said that no decisions will be sought from shareholders at the time. They will not be asked to approve the plan until a special meeting is called this year.

The Canadian oil and gas group had seen healthy trading in its shares in both New York and Toronto last month on hopes that a \$Can1bn (£487.8m) package would be sufficient to rescue it. The company got into trouble after the federal government - as part of its national energy programme aimed at increasing Canadian control - urged it to buy out Congo's stake in Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas. It did so under a debt-financed \$Can4bn deal. But the oil market slump and rise in interest rates rendered Dome unable to make principal payments on \$Can1.35bn worth of loans due at the end of last September.

With total debts topping \$Can7bn, the Canadian government and its four major bankers stepped in to stop a politically embarrassing collapse.

WALL STREET table showing various stock market indices and prices.

Base Lending Rates table listing interest rates for various banks and institutions.

Hartlepool advertisement for a 20% regional development grant and other financial services.

Granville & Co Limited advertisement and table of stock prices.

BTR advertisement titled 'FACTS' comparing BTR's performance with Tilling's, including return on sales, earnings per share, and investment increase.



# The De La Rue Company p.l.c.

## Stronger performance but further improvement needed to sustain growth

"While the Board is pleased with the strengthening of the Company's position in the past year, it nonetheless recognises that further improvement will be required to sustain growth. In today's economic environment even short-term predictions are acutely vulnerable to unforeseeable influences, and it would therefore be unwise to give any firm forecast of the outcome of Group trading in 1983/84. However, at this time the Board is looking for some advance upon the past year's results, but with the second half of the year being once again considerably more productive than the first."

Sir Arthur Norman, KBE, DFC.  
Chairman

### Main Features of the Year 1982/83

The belief expressed by the Board twelve months ago that the results for 1982/83 would be substantially better than those for the preceding year has been borne out by events, the second half showing, as predicted, a considerable advance over the first six months.

It has been possible to reverse in the accounts for the year the greater part of the provisions made against 1981/82 profits in respect of commercial risks arising from political and economic uncertainties. The Board has however made prudent provisions in the 1982/83 figures to take account of new risks which have arisen in a number of areas in our business and which continue to call for skilful management.

The Security side of the Company's business has shown good profits and registering an advance over the previous year. The improvement in profitability of the Currency Division and the results from the subsidiaries in Colombia and Brazil were particularly good.

On the other hand, our Crosfield Electronics business (which showed a trading loss of £5.8 Million) has again adversely affected the overall performance of the Group. Its recovery has been much slower than expected, so that an improvement in trading results was not seen until late in the year. The launch of new products coincided with a deepening of the world recession and intensified competition, and although sales volumes were satisfactory in the circumstances, margins remained under pressure. A number of important changes and initiatives have been set in train and while some of these have had the effect of depressing trading results for 1982/83, they have greatly improved current performance.

As always a large part of the Group turnover (£123 million) consisted of exports from the UK, and in April a Queen's Award for Export Achievement was awarded to Thomas De La Rue, its fifth since the inception of the Scheme. Order books at the start of the current year were appreciably higher than twelve months ago.

There was an outflow of cash, some £14 million, in the year after a capital expenditure programme which absorbed over £13 million. The Group remains however a net lender of cash and continues to regard the maintenance of a strong financial position as being a high priority.

Faraday National Corporation of Herndon, Virginia, U.S.A., was purchased in January this year for \$5.5 million in cash. The company provides a highly efficient service to issuers of credit and debit cards in the United States, including the design and manufacture of bank cards and the embossing, encoding and direct mailing of completed cards to bank customers. It is a national leader in its field.

The business of W. Lethaby and Company Limited at Andover was acquired from the receiver in April this year for a consideration of £610,000. Lethaby has for many years been the prime supplier of numbering equipment to our Thomas De La Rue Currency Division.

The difficulties and dangers of international trading have seldom been greater than they are today. Recession in the industrial countries, economic and often physical famine in the less developed parts of the world and a lack of liquidity everywhere create unprecedented problems for the trader. Only goods of the highest quality and keenest price, backed up by impeccable service, can overcome them.

### Results for the year to 31 March 1983

	1983 £000	1982 £000
Sales		
U.K.	54,353	52,220
Export (including sales to overseas group Companies)	123,387	115,648
Overseas (after adjusting for inter-company sales)	48,166	35,628
	225,906	203,496
Trading profit before interest	20,545	13,394
Interest receivable less payable	2,107	1,937
Trading profit	22,652	15,331
Share of profits of associated companies	8,996	6,606
Profit before taxation	31,648	21,937
Taxation	11,444	7,110
Profit after taxation	20,204	14,827
Minority interests	1,915	1,380
Profit attributable to The De La Rue Company p.l.c.		
before extraordinary items	18,289	13,447
Extraordinary items	(3,222)	(806)
Dividends	15,067	12,641
Retained earnings	6,108	4,223
Earnings per Ordinary share (before extraordinary items)	48.0p	35.3p
Trading profit as a percentage of sales	10.0%	7.5%

Proposed final dividend 16.90 net per share (1982 15.48p Net)

The figures for the year to 31 March 1983 are derived from the Group's full accounts for that period, which have been audited by independent accountants' report and will be filed with the Registrar of Companies after the Annual General Meeting.

Copies of the Preliminary Report and Chairman's Statement are available from the Secretary, De La Rue House, Burlington Gardens, London W1A 1DL.

## Derek Harris spotlights the old giant's trading losses

# Co-ops at the merger crossroads

For years while the Co-op's led as Britain's biggest grocery retailer has been eroded, it has provided the question: when will it get its act together? This week's Co-operative Congress, the movement's annual parliament, may have provided something like an answer at last.

The biggest merger in the history of the co-operative movement for one thing seems set to go through. Against some odds, it should put together the two leaders of the movement, the Co-operative Wholesale Society and the Co-operative Retail Services, the movement's biggest retailer.

But this grouping - big as it is, with a potential turnover of £2.25 bn - still will account for only just over a quarter of co-operative retail trade.

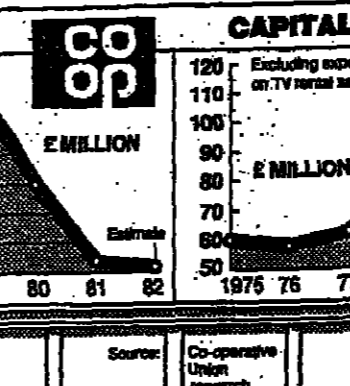
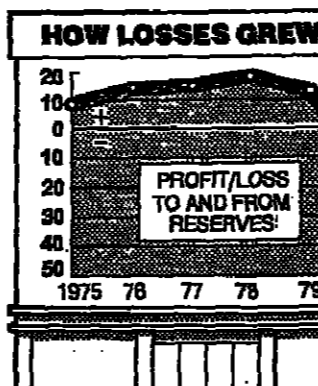
Among the 135 other retail societies which do the rest of the trade some fruitful mergers are coming through, the latest being the merger only days ago of the successful Stoke-based North Midlands Society and the larger but loss-making Greater Lancashire Society.

The combined societies, called United Co-operative, are the largest grouping in the movement next to CRS, pushing the Tyneside-based North Eastern Society into third position.

United's territory runs from the southern Lake District to the Forcettes. Its chief executive is Mr Bill Farrow, under whose stewardship North Midlands prospered and who is also chairman of CIS, the CWS insurance arm, and a member of the CWS Board.

Still, there are far too many societies as boards of directors and local managers tend to hang on to what they have. Some societies seem merely to lurch from one annual balance sheet to the next, often selling assets to cover trading losses.

But the past few years of trading adversity and some determined efforts by the Co-operative Union through full-time investigators and persuaders is bearing some fruit. At the Union, which is the



overall advisory body to the movement, Mr Lloyd Wilkinson, chief executive and general secretary, foresees a rapid reduction in the number of societies to fewer than 100. Much of this is likely to happen as the "merger scene" reaches its peak. More retail societies do now seem to be appreciating the extent of their problems and that something must be done. That much came through at the Harrogate Congress this week. As well as the chastening effects of recession, the increasing competition on the high street from chains like J.

still leaving scope for a creative use of assets by selling some to release capital for investment in more modern stores. The Co-op as a whole now operates 55 superstores but it needs more to keep up with the game. This was the logic of the recent acquisition of five big Mainstreet Stores from BAT Industries by CWS which subsequently either sold or leased them to individual societies. With CWS as manufacturer and wholesaler keen to increase retail outlet capacity as a channel for its goods, more such deals are likely if the right buying chances arise. On average retail societies source 70 per cent of their purchases from CWS whose primary job is to supply goods and services to the retail societies. Mr Dennis Landau, CWS chief executive, would like to see that go to 75 per cent or over 80 per cent which would be at the limit.

Reports circulating in the movement indicate that since 1979 and including last year about £115m in trading losses have been covered from society reserves. These reserves in turn have been propped up by sales of assets, including many old smaller shops but also in some cases more substantial property like department stores. Reserves overall because of this were until last year still on a rising trend even though the

But since it took over the troubled London society in early 1981, CRS has had to pull £27m in all from its reserves to meet the cost, mostly, of digesting the London rescue.

Despite its successful trading in its established regions CRS reserves are now down to £33.2m. The combining of the CWS and CRS balance sheets will provide ample reserves for any further rescue that might be needed. But Mr Landau is insistent on the need for big regional societies to play a strong role so they will be the preferred route for mergers.

Allowing a Co-op to fail and thus serving notice on all troubled societies that they cannot automatically expect rescue would be a strong psychological weapon in the battle to secure a limited number of strong well run regional societies. The aim is to get the number of societies down to 25. But such action will not be taken without heart searching that it just might in an embarrassingly large number of other societies cause a run on the share capital subscribed by members who might become alarmed at the abandonment of a society.

### Assets sales era may be coming to an end

Sainsbury and Tesco stores have put a premium on greater efficiency.

The societies have closed nearly 800 outlets in the past year but that still leaves 7,200 which stand in most balance sheets at artificially low historical values. So societies still have a vast asset base on which they could capitalize. Total square footage of sales area in stores is still almost as great because stores are getting bigger.

The era of selling off assets simply to offset trading losses may be coming to an end while

### Time to make up fully to today's trading realities

been toughened, allowing the unions' investigation team to insist if necessary on looking at its society's books with the final sanction of a society being expelled from the movement.

At least one recalcitrant society is now threatened with forced investigation of its affairs.

There is a growing expectation in the movement that at least one society could soon be allowed to go to the wall rather than being saved at the 11th hour. Rescue in the past has largely come from CRS, which started life as an ambulance service for societies in trouble.

## Historical trade surplus slips off balance

### Industrial notebook

Britain has had a trade surplus on its manufactured goods since the Industrial Revolution. Its appearance has become so repetitive that it no longer makes headlines. Until, that is, it ceases to disappear in the middle of an election.

Figures published last Friday show that, in the first quarter of this year, Britain had a deficit on manufactures of £664m - an about-turn from the £678m surplus achieved in the last three months of last year.

For the first time since Britain became an industrial leader it has been beaten by its competitors.

Britain depends more on its manufactured goods sales as a contribution to its overall economic performance than

most of its industrial competitors. Factory-made goods exports translate directly into - or fewer - jobs at home.

And despite a valiant effort by British exporters (which have seen sales consistently rising), Britain's trade position in the EEC has been deteriorating.

Conservatives have been stressing that "exports are running at record levels".

The manufactured goods "surplus" normally only gets raised during question time in the House. The next such occasion was scheduled for June 6, and Labour and the Alliance feel they have been

robbed of a vital scoring point - until now, that is.

The deficit has appeared as the only hefty piece of statistical evidence against conservative economic performance.

Mrs Shirley Williams has been trying to extract the facts from the Conservatives. She raised the deficit during a television confrontation with Sir Geoffrey Howe almost two weeks ago.

She was able to challenge the Chancellor's "record exports" claim only by saying "But it's all Geoffrey, it's oil". Oil, she was implying, does not create jobs. Not in the same way as a few more cars sold abroad.

The latest figures, it must be stressed, are on a refined balance of payments basis (BOP).

Shipping and insurance costs, which distort the picture by inflating the real value of Britain's foreign sales, will have been eliminated.

How will the Conservatives answer the charges that, by keeping the pound uncompetitively high, job-creating manufactured goods exports have been kept down - while similar imports have been encouraged?

First, Mrs Thatcher must argue that Britain would not have slipped into deficit but for an exceptionally low January export performance. Sales on a BOP basis were down to £4.6bn in that month, against December's £5bn, February's £4.9bn and £5.3bn in March.

There is no explanation for that. Large volume exporters do not report that they kept shipments down in that month.

The £700m gap remains, upon which Mrs Thatcher's opponents will concentrate.

She will probably stress the strong performance of British manufacturers in foreign markets.

Another probable argument is that the devaluation of sterling between October and March, of about 14.5 per cent, will work its way through to increased exports this year.

But deals being done today will not translate into better figures until, probably, the end of this year. The best Britain can hope for this year is a return to a modest surplus on manufactures by the year-end. John Lawless

**Davies & Newman HOLDINGS P.L.C.**

**Extracts from Chairman's Statement**

"A year ago I forecast that 1982 would not be an easy one for the Group but that every effort would be made by the Directors and Staff to maintain profitability. I am, therefore, very pleased to report that 1982 turned out well, with a Group profit before tax and extraordinary item of £3,300,000.

There is no doubt that an end to the recession would improve the outlook for companies involved with shipping and aviation. Unfortunately, this situation has not yet happened and it is, therefore, necessary to remain cautious when considering the future. However, the airline is ready to tackle another busy season and all actions of the Group are alert to deal with every eventuality."

F. E. F. Newman, M.C.

**Summary of Results**

	1982 £000	1981 £000
● Turnover	183,840	154,472
● Profit before taxation	3,316	342
● Profit after taxation and extraordinary item	3,614	58
● Shareholders' funds	19,409	16,352
● Dividend per share	10p	3.0p
● Earnings per share	57p	1.0p

**DAN-AIR** 1963-1982 20 years experience

Copies of the Directors' Report and Accounts for 1982 may be obtained from the Secretary, Davies & Newman Holdings P.L.C., Bilbao House, 36-38 New Broad Street, London, EC2M 1NH.

**THE TIMES 1000 1982/1983**

**The World's Top Companies**

The top 1000 UK companies with all statistical details plus addresses. The 500 leading European companies and American, Japanese, Irish, Canadian, Hong Kong companies, etc. \$15.00

Available from booksellers or direct at \$16.25 including postage from

**TIMES BOOKS LTD** 16 Golden Square, London, W.1.

**Associated British Foods**



66 Profits before tax and shareholders' funds have both shown compound growth in excess of 15 per cent. over the past five years in spite of the recession affecting all of our major markets at home and overseas.

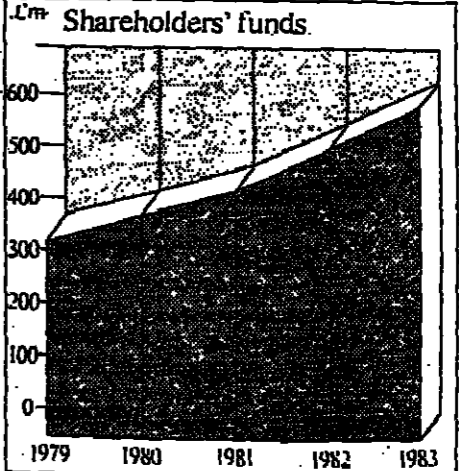
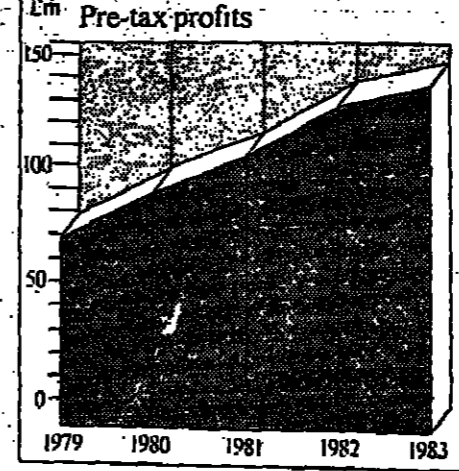
Over £700 million has been spent in this period on new assets and investments placing the group in a strong position to achieve further growth in the future.99

Garry Weston, Chairman

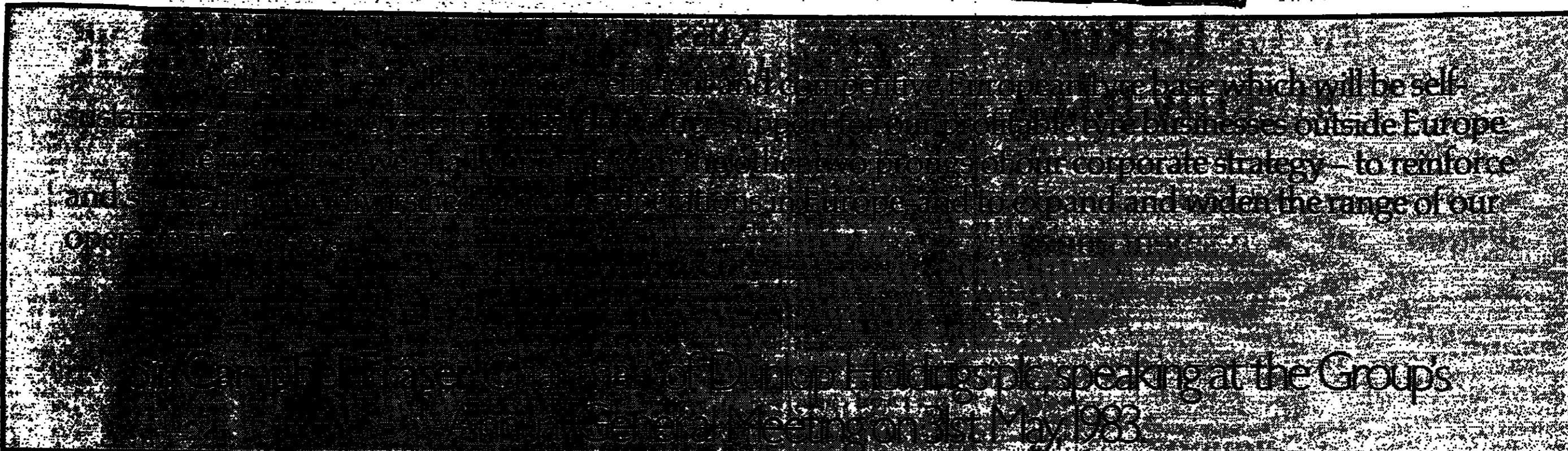
**Financial Highlights**

	1983 £ million	1979 £ million
Sales	3,366	1,822
Profit before tax	147	79
Capital employed	898	491
Earnings per share	23.0p	14.0p
Dividends per share	4.7p	2.6p

### Five years of consistent progress



Associated British Foods plc  
Weston Centre, 68 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LR.



### THE YEAR 1982

I have to sum up 1982 as a most disappointing year given the amount of time and effort that was put into the business by management at all levels. Signs of some improvement in the level of business activity in the earlier months of the year proved to be short-lived, at least in this country, and by the summer it had become apparent that the recovery was petering out. Indeed, you will recall that at the time of the interim results I warned that trading conditions in the EEC were worsening markedly, particularly for tyres and automotive components. In the event, that forecast turned out to be only too accurate because it was in the United Kingdom and France that the tyre operations slipped sharply into loss in the second half of the year; and a number of our other businesses had a harder time in a difficult economic climate.

Fortunately, despite the spread of the recession, our overseas businesses as a whole had another good year, and the extent to which once again they supported our operations in Europe will not have escaped your notice. Even so, that fact is often conveniently overlooked by those who accuse us, quite tendentiously, of neglecting our home base.

1982 was also another year of restructuring and rationalisation; there were changes both in the composition of the Group and inevitably in the number of employees. But employment was not the only resource that was cut back - very stringent measures were adopted to take more costs out of the business, to reduce expenses, and to conserve cash. The success of these measures can be seen in the fall in working capital to finance the business against an increase of 3% in the value of sales.

Of course, the disappointing aspect of the year's results was the sharp reversal in the trend of profit recovery so that the loss in the second half year more than offset the trading profit earned in the first half year. In the event, for the year as a whole, there was a trading loss of some £7 million, which meant a significant loss at the attributable level.

This was aggravated by the extraordinary costs sustained in the year, the extent of this continuing rationalisation and restructuring of the Group is shown by the net change of £28 million. That reflects further significant change both in the tyre business in Europe and in our diversified products operations. It has been our aim to shelter extraordinary costs with extraordinary profits and we would have largely achieved this again this year if the sale of part of our share in the Malaysian manufacturing business had been completed in time. Nevertheless, we would expect to get the benefit of that deal during the course of this year.

In the prevailing circumstances, the Board was unanimous in its view that it would not have been prudent to recommend a final dividend for the year in addition to the interim dividend already paid. But the Board's primary objective to restore the dividend as a consequence of trading results justify

### RECESSION AND RESPONSE

The reasons for this year's bad trading are not far to seek. I have mentioned before the fact that technology has had on tyre life - but mentioning it does not change it. There is the severity and length of the recession in Western Europe. There has never been such a severe recession in the post-war world, and whilst we are not alone in suffering from that, it has to be said that the tyre business right across Europe has been hit harder than any other industry except perhaps steel. Despite the closure of 15 tyre factories in Europe, rising productive efficiency has more than outweighed the loss of capacity, so that there is still something like 15%-20% over-capacity in Europe. That, together with imports from outside the EEC, has had a disastrous effect on tyre price levels and margins. The very considerable savings achieved in the last three years by dint of tough management action, and a number of necessary but unpalatable decisions affecting people, have been whittled away by the market place in terms of lower prices for tyres. In real terms, they are well below the levels of three years ago. Every major tyre company in Europe has been reporting substantial losses for some time; in that we are not alone.

Given this situation, the question that can properly be put is whether tyres in Europe will ever be a reasonable business earning a reasonable rate of return on investment as in the early years of the 1970s. On the basis of reduced scale of operation, we believe the answer to that question is in the affirmative. We were the first of the major companies to recognise that radical action needed to be taken to meet the incipient recession in 1978/79. These measures were both necessary and costly. Competitors followed more tardily. We have more to do, and we have plans for further action which will be implemented during the next twelve months. These we believe that we shall have a smaller but more efficient and competitive European base which will be self-sustaining and will provide technical and other support for our profitable tyre businesses overseas.

In the meantime, we shall continue with the other two prongs of our corporate strategy - to reinforce and strengthen the diversified products operations in Europe, and to expand and widen the range of our operations overseas. Together these businesses represent a real and continuing source of strength for the Group.

Structural change on this scale inevitably takes time and money

and involves a lot of painful choices. However, unlike some of our major competitors, we are reshaping ourselves from within our own resources with little or no external financial aid. For this reason, we have to move at a pace consistent with our financial resources and the needs of our other businesses. In that regard, our finances are stretched but are adequate for the primary task of getting the tyre business in Europe right. I can assure you that the management time and effort to resolve this particular problem, which is central to the Group's future well-being, is whole-hearted and determined.

### COMPANY SHAREHOLDINGS

Following our discussion at last year's Annual General Meeting, I undertook to study the size of directors' shareholdings. You may recall that in 1970 shareholders agreed to delete qualification shares for directors from the Company's Articles of Association. As a matter of interest, the Article that was deleted said: "A qualification of a director shall be the holding of shares of any class of the nominal amount of £100." That was not an onerous provision, but the decision recognised that the existence of qualification shares was an anachronism given the separation between ownership and management in a major public company. There are only a few companies that have retained such qualification shares and, indeed, not one of the major companies we have studied has an overt policy regarding the desirability or the level, of directors' shareholdings.

The reason clearly is that the personal assets of individual directors vary widely, and it is generally accepted that it would be shortsighted of any public company to deny itself the services of appropriate people on the grounds of financial inability to invest. I am aware of the argument that directors and senior executives who have a significant holding in the company thereby indicate confidence in themselves and in the future of the company. It is often said that these executives will identify more closely with the interests of the company and be more prepared to focus attention on improving profitability when a significant proportion of their own reward is related to the results and the success of the enterprise.

How valid are these arguments? They are, of course, not open to objective proof. It is now generally accepted that the management of a public company is separate from ownership. Management skills and expertise are professional and distinct from the ability to invest on any scale. This is not to argue that a director should have no personal involvement - that is a matter of personal preference and capability. For the professional director, however, self-interest is a

powerful motivating force. He has invested his and his family's future in the business, and this is most true of those who have least private capital. His incentive to identify with the success of the business is clear indeed. We concluded that the balance of logic and argument is against the imposition of significant investment obligations on directors in companies that they manage, and particularly so in large public companies such as Dunlop. It is generally true that the larger the company the smaller the proportion of the equity that directors hold. We examined the proportionate holdings of your directors compared with companies of similar size, and on this basis Dunlop directors are about average. We came to the conclusion, therefore, that there was little reason, and certainly no precedent, to support the contention that major public companies should impose on their directors an obligation to invest significantly in the businesses that they manage and run.

You will be interested to know that we tested these arguments and conclusions with our auditors, and they supported these findings. During the course of the study however, we were struck by the fact that whilst the vast majority of companies accept that there should be no obligation on their directors to invest, a growing number consider that the provision of a direct link between company performance and senior management reward in the form of a share incentive scheme can be helpful to the company. Accordingly, during this year we shall look carefully at schemes which encourage participation both at a senior level and for employees as a whole. Of course, any scheme that we may propose would be within the guidelines set out by the Investors Protection Committees, and would require your consent. If we consider it appropriate to do so, we shall bring forward such schemes for your consideration in due course.

In this context, you may be interested to know that at the end of last year the Company had just over 46,000 shareholders, of whom 44,700 were private individuals. However, as with most public companies, the proportion of shareholders is not reflected in the ownership of your Company. Private shareholders now hold 26% of the equity; institutions of all kinds account for some 39%; and the balance is owned by overseas residents. You may recall that two years ago I had occasion to refer to the holdings in the Far East, and you may be aware of Press comment about the shares held in Malaysia. Following their recent purchases, Pegi Malaysia Berhad now owns 26.1% of the equity of the Company and we believe that another 9% or so is held either in, or beneficially for, residents in the Far East. There has been a good deal of speculation about the motives of our major shareholders in the Far East. As far as we know, these shareholders regard their stake as a long-term investment in the Company, and have not indicated any other intention.

### CURRENT TRADING

So far this year, trading results overseas and in diversified products in Europe are better than in comparable months of 1982. The same is true of Dunlop operations in Germany, including tyres. These results undoubtedly reflect some strengthening of demand in Europe and the USA, as well as the effects of continuing management action to improve profitability in Dunlop companies throughout the world.

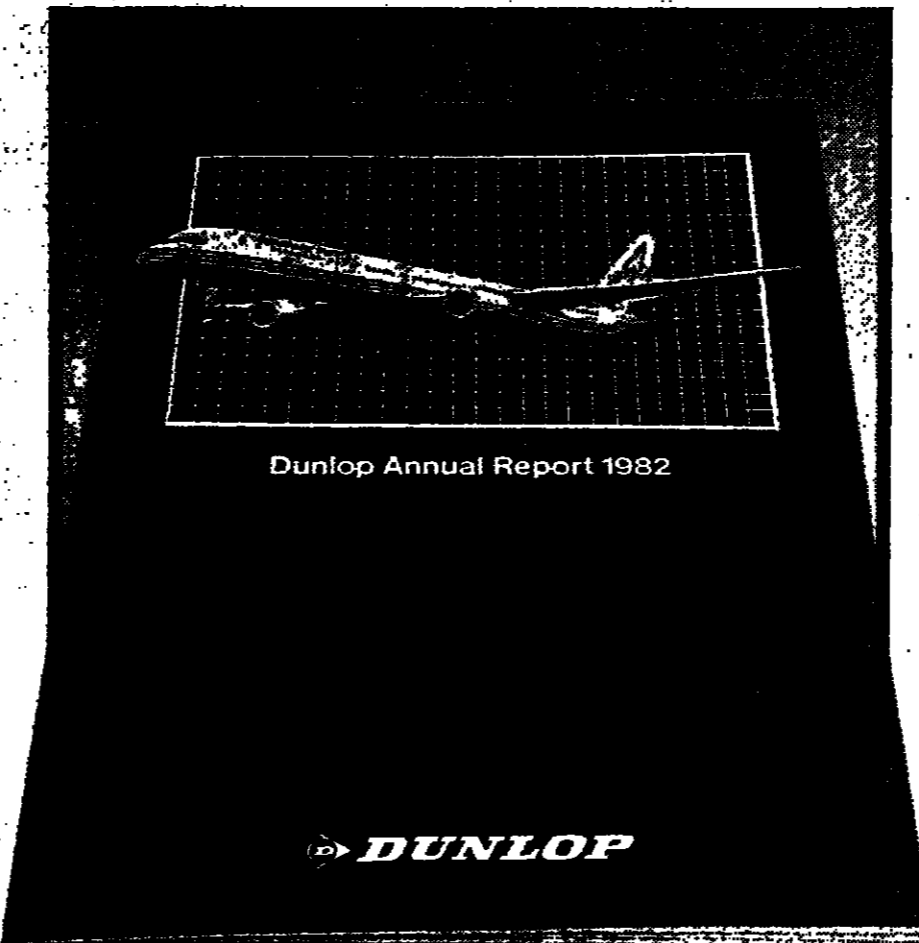
However, the tyre businesses in the UK, France and Ireland are still unsatisfactory, mainly because of the effects of over-capacity on the level of tyre prices. Measures were taken in the autumn to reduce costs in these businesses and further radical restructuring is in hand. This remains a major priority not least because an improvement in the performance of the tyre businesses in these areas of Europe would help to release the considerable growth potential in other parts of the Group.

Overall, therefore, there are some signs of improvement in the market place which, together with the action already taken by management should ensure that the poor results in the second half of 1982 are not repeated in the first half of this year. Beyond that, it is reasonable to expect that, unless there is some further unexpected deterioration in the market place, the present measures should progressively restore the Group to a healthier trading position.

### BOARD CHANGES

I should mention two impending retirements from the Board: Mr. Donal Carroll will retire at the end of this meeting, and in view of his other commitments in Ireland, will not be seeking re-election. Mr. Carroll, who is now Chairman of the Bank of Ireland, and also Chairman of Carroll Industries Ltd., was appointed a non-executive director in 1973, and he has served the Company with distinction during his period of office. We are grateful to him for his sage advice over the years. Mr. Michael Bexon, an executive colleague, is also retiring on reaching the age of 60. He joined the Company in 1948 and has served it assiduously and well in a number of senior positions both at home and overseas. He has been a member of this Board since 1967, and I should like to thank him for his services to the Company and wish him well, on your behalf, in his retirement.

There are five directors standing for re-election, two of whom joined the Board during 1982 - Mr. William Menzies-Wilson and Mr. Colin Hope. The other directors seeking re-election are Sir John Baring, Mr. Anthony Harvey and Mr. Roy Marsh, all of whom I would commend to you.



# DUNLOP

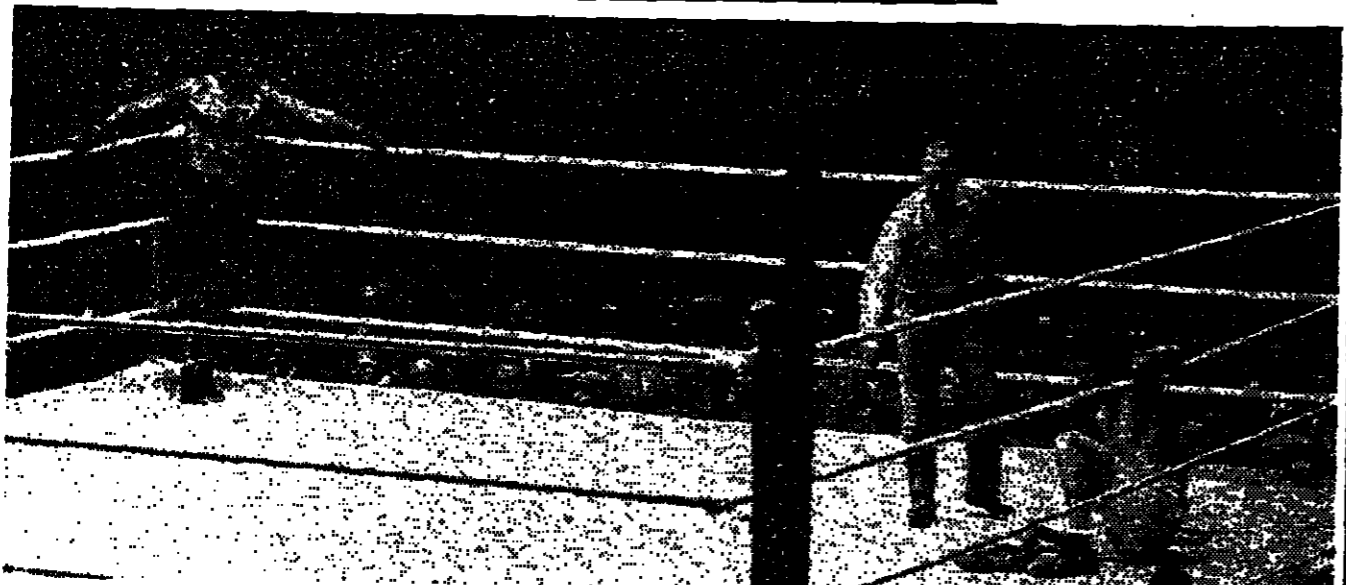
Please send me more information about Dunlop  
Please tick choice

- Dunlop Annual Report 1982.
- Copy of the Chairman's Statement.
- Shareholder Rebate Scheme pamphlet.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Post to: The Secretary, Dunlop Holdings plc,  
Dunlop House, Ryder Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6PX.

BOXING: THE BATTLE OF THE LONG COUNT



Jack Dempsey's failure to go to a neutral corner after knocking down Gene Tunney cost him victory in this world title rematch at Soldiers Field, Chicago, in 1927. The referee Dave Barry refused to start counting until Dempsey obeyed the rules. In this picture, Dempsey, installed in a neutral corner, watches Barry start the count. Tunney picked himself up, managed to survive, and went on to win. Although he had been on the floor for 14 seconds Tunney often said he could have survived without the long count. However, when he hit the floor he was too glassy-eyed to get up.

More boxing, page 25  
Obituary, page 16

MINOR COUNTIES CRICKET

Hertfordshire win easily without key players

By Michael Berry

The first disappointment for spectators at Stenford on Sunday was the omission of one P. D. Johnson from the Lincolnshire scorecard for their opening Minor Counties match against Hertfordshire in the new eastern division of the revamped championship, now sponsored by United Friendly Insurance.

The second was the confirmation that Peter Johnson, the Cambridge Blues who spent eight seasons with Nottinghamshire, has in fact left his adopted county after five years. Johnson, who captained Lincolnshire last season, has apparently decided to move south to play his county cricket with Cambridgeshire. And inquiries into the reasons behind the development are met with a mask of diplomacy.

Clearly his loss of form with the bat during 1982 may have been a factor. After scoring 2,396 runs in his first four years with Lincolnshire at an average of more than 70 - including a record five centuries in 1981 - Johnson managed only 249 at an average of 17.78 last season.

However, talk at Stenford on Sunday unveiled other doubts. It was suggested that the destiny of this year's Lincolnshire captaincy may have led something to do with his departure. Whatever the truth, it is certain that Lincolnshire have lost and Cambridgeshire gained a vital asset.

Without Johnson the Lincolnshire batting appears a little brittle. Their second-innings collapse on Monday set up Hertfordshire for a comfortable eight-wicket win.

Their bowling, too, despite the inclusion of the former England spinner, Geoff Cope, looked somewhat inadequate. In all fairness, though, it must be stated that their bowling armory was missing several acquisitions. Kevin Brooks, an all-rounder previously of Derbyshire, will join Cope as the county's other professional and Peter Hacker, formerly of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, has been registered as an amateur. In addition a powerful Barbadian pace-bowler, Rod Estwick, will again play in the campaign when his league commitments allow.

Hertfordshire, for their part, illustrated their potential by achieving victory without a handful of key players. Frank Collyer, the captain, and Wayne Canning, were both representing the Minor Counties against the Zimbabweans, opening bowler Kevin King was on tour with an MCC side, and David Outley is unlikely to figure much in their plans this season because of back trouble.

One former player who has returned to the Hertfordshire fold is the fast bowler, David Surridge. He has rejoined the county after his release by Gloucestershire.

Other cricket, page 24

EQUESTRIANISM

Miss Clapham to ride Andeguy at Bramham

By Jenny MacArthur

Diana Clapham, who rode as an individual at the world championships last year, will be riding George Wimpey's Andeguy, a Richard Meade's usual ride, at the Bramham horse trials in West Yorkshire which start today. The trials, under the new sponsorship of J Barbour and Sons, continue until Sunday.

Meade, who was without a ride at Badminton, is grounded after a fall at Cheltenham a fortnight ago. Andeguy, who is eight, and was the working hunter of the year in 1981, was bought by George Wimpey a year ago.

Bramham will be the horse's first three-day event, but his form has been impressive. He was second in the intermediate class at Crookham

and Brigstock and was third at Tidworth. Miss Clapham, who will also be riding Weldon Crackerjack, has not ridden Andeguy in a competition before but Meade will be on hand to help and advise.

Due to the cancellation of the Windsor horse trials last month the British junior championships are being held at Bramham in addition to the British young riders national championships for riders under 21. Entries in the latter class include Karen Straker, the European junior champion, who will be competing on Rummy Strawson.

Young riders champion, will not be riding. She has been best with bad luck this year.

Skelton takes Everest to summit. The Everest stable made an excellent start at the Royal Bath and West show yesterday when Nick Skelton, on St James, won the first jumping competition, the Cockburn's Special Reserve Stakes.

In heavy going, four of the 20 competitors went clear and Stephen Hadley, on Stormora, was drawn first in the jump-off in which there were three very sharp turns. He set a stiff target with a clear round on 43.89sec, and Pam Dunning, who followed on Fearless, was also clear, but in 44.11.

By a Special Correspondent

Nick Skelton cut all the corners on St James to finish in 43.56 and Robert Smith, on Vista, last to jump, retired after he had two fences down.

RESULTS: Cockburn's Special Reserve Stakes 1, T. Cameron's St James (N. Skelton) 43.56; 2, Vista (R. Smith) 44.11; 3, Fearless (P. Dunning) 44.11; 4, Stormora (S. Hadley) 44.11. Other competitors: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20.

ATHLETICS

Russian offers early test for Coe

By Pat Butcher

Sebastian Coe is leading a sprint of all four British 1980 Olympic gold medalists into the new season. He confirmed yesterday his participation against the Soviet Union in the international match in Birmingham on Sunday while Daley Thompson, despite injuries, competes next week in Toronto, his only destination of the season prior to the first world championships in Helsinki in August.

Alan Wells has asked to compete for his club, Edinburgh Sportham, in British League match in London this weekend and Steve Ovett makes his international track comeback after injury last season in a one mile at Edinburgh on June 26. Coe and Wells will compete the twenty-fifth annual Loughborough Students v AAA match on June 12. Both face competition from domestic opposition as stars as they would be likely to find anywhere.

Wells meets Mike McFarlane over 200 metres, their first race since they last met for first time since the distance in the Commonwealth Games last October. The match, sponsored by Dorina, takes place on the new track at Loughborough University.

Coe, in his first outdoor 800 metres since his disappointing second place in the European Championships will race Peter Elliott who won the United Kingdom title at that distance last Sunday with the fourth fastest time in the world this year.

Coe's business in Birmingham is just as pressing. He will run in the thirty-first Emsley Carr mile against Nikolai Kiryov who finished third in the Moscow Olympics 800 metres behind Ovett and Coe. Kiryov chased home Steve Cram in the European 1500 metres last September and he should give Coe a better work out than the Englishman expected at this stage of the season.

Coe and Ovett will compete twice in the first three European permit matches which begin in London against Sydney Maree in Paris on June 24. Ovett faces Graham Williamson over one mile in London on the following day. In Oslo on June 25 they will again compete at different distances.

Thompson has had a back injury for some time which has restricted training for the three jumping events. He is to compete in "National" Toronto before the injuries have healed may jeopardise his outstanding chance of victory in the world championships.

CYCLING: MILK RACE GUARANTEED EXCITING FINALE

Kimmage can make history

By John Wilcockson

Scarborough on a wet Wednesday was not the ideal place to enjoy the only race day of what is proving the most exciting Milk Race for years.

The British Professional team - who still fancy the chances of Sean Yates - intended to try out the three hills that punctuate today's tenth stage to Middlesbrough across the North Yorkshire Moors. Instead of a gentle training spin, they contented themselves with a carburettor reconnaissance of the climbs that could decide this twenty-sixth Milk Race.

With only three stages, and 190 miles of racing left, the outcome is as uncertain as it was when we left Bournemouth 10 days ago. Even the most patriotic Irishman would hesitate before forecasting that their race leader, Paul Kimmage, will still be wearing the yellow jersey at Blackpool on Saturday afternoon.

Kimmage has gained the lead by not being one of the favourites, unlike Yates, who has been heavily marked. The Dubliner, aged 21, went with long-term breakaway on the stages to Leicester and Halifax, and his decisions proved successful because of the tactical manoeuvres of teams that are undoubtedly stronger than the Irish.

The West Germans, for instance, rode strongly on the first stages, but they have proved less apt in the hills, and the second-placed Ulrich Rottler is not showing the form of a potential winner.

In contrast, Yates, only eight seconds behind the 29-year-old West German, has shown unexpected aptitude for climbing hills. He also has the individual strength to make up the 54 seconds that separate him from Kimmage, and the full backing of a team that still has an ace up its sleeve in Tony Doyle.

The other British challenger is the amateur rider, Malcolm Elliott, who has crept back into contention with the two minutes to time bonuses he has picked up from winning four out of the 11 road race stages.



Yates: Has strength to close 54-second gap

There are no bonuses on offer for the remaining three legs, so the Commonwealth Games champion will have to come out of his shell if he wants to improve upon his overall eighth place. He has missed every important break, but his equaling of Poppe Oosterhof's 1969 record of five stage victories (including the prologue) could give Elliott the confidence he needs to make an eleventh.

An exciting finale is assured. It can be guaranteed that Kimmage will be riding his heart out to cling on to his slender lead. Last winter he received hours of tactical advice from the Irish professional rider, Stephen Roche, who is an expert reader of a race. If the exuberant Kimmage can put theory into practice, he may yet give the Irish their most famous cycling victory on English roads.

OLYMPIC GAMES: A TESTING TIME FOR NEW DRUG TESTS

Los Angeles resists IOC on drugs

Lansanne, Switzerland (AP) - Organizers of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games and officials of the International Olympic Committee remained at loggerheads over the IOC proposal to use new drug tests, pending a report of their reliability.

Peter Ueberroth, president of the Los Angeles organizing committee, told a press conference he remained opposed to testosterone and caffeine testing, which he said, could be used to detect the use of "the games of lawyers and doctors."

He said the first such tests, at the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane, Australia last October, were "unsatisfactory and did not work."

He added, however, that the organizers might drop their opposition if the use of the tests at

causing events should show they are feasible.

Prince Alexandre de Merode, chairman of the IOC's medical commission, told a reporter he was confident that testosterone and caffeine testing at the Mediterranean Games at Casablanca, Morocco, and at the Winter Olympics at Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, would produce the results he wanted.

Ueberroth said that the Los Angeles committee "deplored" the use of such substances that did not want the athletes to suffer. He said the organizers want to have tests limited to those made during the 1980 Olympics in Moscow.

(Reuters) - The shooting events at the Los Angeles Olympic Games could be staged in Las Vegas after all, despite the rejection of the venue in January by the International Olympic Committee. The Los Angeles organizing committee have written down two potential venues in California to find and add Las Vegas as a potential third.

A large financial table with multiple columns and rows, containing various data points and figures. The table is organized into several sections, including 'Authorized Units & Insurance Funds' and 'Insurance Bonds and Funds'. It lists numerous financial entities and their corresponding values.

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# Zoff excupulated in Italy's trials

Rome (Reuters) - After Italy won the World Cup in Spain last July, political commentators agreed that the consequent mood of euphoria extended the life of a tottering coalition government for several weeks. Now, as the country prepares this month, there are calls for drastic changes in the national team.

Two recent events have plunged the game in Italy into a crisis of confidence. The first was the European Cup final last Wednesday, in which Juventus lost 1-0 to Hamburg despite the fact that the Turin side contained six of the heroes of Spain and two other outstanding players from the World Cup: Michel Platini and Zbigniew Boniek.

Then followed Italy's 2-0 humiliation by Sweden in Gothenburg last Sunday, a defeat which ended the World Cup holders' chance of reaching the 1984 European Championship finals in France.

"Back the lot except Zoff," the country's leading sports newspaper, *Gazzetta dello Sport*, said in a front page article, spurring only the veteran goalkeeper, Dino Zoff, from blame for the debacle in Sweden.

Since beating West Germany 3-1 in Madrid on July 11 last year, Italy have drawn or lost three of their six international matches, beginning the dismal sequence with a 1-0 home defeat by the unfancied Switzerland in the European championship qualifying round they have drawn 2-2 with Czechoslovakia, 0-0 with Romania

# They came to praise McEnroe and Wilander buried him

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Paris

Mats Wilander, the champion, won 23 consecutive points and 11 consecutive games to beat John McEnroe 1-6, 6-2, 6-4, 6-0 in a quarter-final of the French championships here yesterday. McEnroe was reduced to baffled helplessness, just as Jimmy Connors had been a day earlier. Since Tony Trabert won the title in 1955 only four Americans have reached the men's final and Harold Solomon was the only one to win it.

In tennis terms, the slow shales courts of the Roland Garros stadium could be described as Uncle Sam's graveyard; and in the past two days, Connors and McEnroe have not even been buried with dignity. At the beginning of yesterday's fourth set, McEnroe, who is not the most renowned of tennis players, was reduced to a state of inevitable that he sat on a chair to join the public in applauding the passage of the spare shuttle, and then doffed his shirt, took up a "Mr. Livestock" pen and announced that a playful jog back to the baseline.

All this delighted the crowd packed around the centre court. They had come to admire McEnroe and perhaps to laugh at him, but they found themselves laughing with him. But the message was clear: when you are not a top player, you are a laughing stock. You are not a top player, you are a laughing stock. You are not a top player, you are a laughing stock.

# Watson signing imminent

Leeds United yesterday paid £60,000 for Andy Watson, the Aberdeen midfielder. Eddie Gray, a player manager, tried to sign him during the season, but Alex Ferguson, the Aberdeen manager, was not prepared to part at the time. Watson, aged 23, made his appearance for Aberdeen last season, including one as substitute in their Scottish Cup Final win over Rangers.

Robbie James, the Welsh international, has been offered a new three-year contract Swansea City. James, aged 26, a midfielder, player and captain of Swansea, will qualify for a testimonial if he decides to stay with his home town club. He has promised John Toshack, an Swansea manager, an answer before the end of the week.

West Bromwich Albion are hoping to sign Steve Hunt, Coventry's midfielder player. Ron Wylie, the Albion manager, spoke to Hunt yesterday after being given permission by Bobby Gould, the new Coventry manager.

Wylie said: "Hunt is a quality player who can play in various positions. He is a good provider, one of the best crossers of the ball and can also score goals."

Ron Hankin, a former Burnley and Ipswich player, has been signed from Vancouver Whitecaps for £85,000 last September. He has been given a free transfer by Middlesex. Dave Shearer, the club's leading scorer with 13 league and cup goals last season, is also on a "free."



Wilander yesterday: artisan triumphing over artist

# Irish eyes are green with envy

I doubt whether the events of Tuesday afternoon at the European scene, but for how much longer? That is the question which is being asked in the Irish press, as they look on in envy at the success of the Welsh side. The Irish are not alone in feeling this way. The Welsh side, led by captain Ian Jones, have been playing a style of football which has attracted the admiration of many other European sides. They have drawn 2-2 with Czechoslovakia, 0-0 with Romania

and most skillful on the European scene, but for how much longer? That is the question which is being asked in the Irish press, as they look on in envy at the success of the Welsh side. The Irish are not alone in feeling this way. The Welsh side, led by captain Ian Jones, have been playing a style of football which has attracted the admiration of many other European sides. They have drawn 2-2 with Czechoslovakia, 0-0 with Romania

# Tour lacks interest

Maniche, Swaziland (AP) - Manchester United and Tottenham Hotspur will be playing each other here on June 4 and 11, yet Swaziland's 16,000 seat national stadium may be half full. Tickets costing between 25 and 50 dollars are steep by Swazi standard, and the tour has stirred little interest in South Africa, which borders the kingdom on three sides.

Swaziland's 1,500 hotel beds were booked months ago, but appears fewer fans than expected will venture the eight-hour return trip between the kingdom and Johannesburg.

There will be a third encounter on Sunday between a combined British team and the Swazi national team with admission prices reduced.

The Belgians, group one leaders, were unlikely not to add another victory to an impressive list after claims for a penalty were rejected in the final seconds. A hard tackle by Amoros brought Gerets down in the box, but the referee waved play on.

The match began dramatically with Didier Six, France's captain, and Eddy Voordracht, the Belgian striker, scoring in the opening minutes.

# Wimbledon interest

The match between Richard Lewis, ranked No 5 in Britain, and Pat Cash, the junior Wimbledon champion from Australia, led to unpleasant scenes and a change of umpire in the Beckenham tournament, sponsored by the Kentish Times, yesterday. Cash eventually won 6-7, 6-4, 6-2, to put himself in the third round of the men's singles.

There had been outbursts by both players, but it was Lewis, in the final set, when both players, who had been warned for code violation, joined forces against the umpire, Michael Bortolotto. Cash, having won the first set, was leading 3-1.

This fifth game was won by Lewis after six deuces and two disputes. First, Lewis had called for the referee, Bob Howe, when he felt he had been unlawfully cautioned by the umpire for time violations. He had been given 15 seconds to re-start play. But Lewis, who said later that

# Wimbledon interest

he had never been cautioned by an umpire before, had a distasteful part in his eye and believed that he was entitled to at least three minutes injury time. Cash, who had received a warning during the tie-break in the first set, was given a penalty point after he had slammed the ball into the crowd. He said later that he had stumbled when hitting it, and had a warning during the tie-break in the first set.

"All Pat and I wanted was a quiet life," Lewis said, "but the umpire was determined to get in the way. Umpires seem these days to take it on the little game of playing the game."

It was Cash, however, who made the first protest when he questioned a call made by the service line judge which cost him a double fault at 3-3 in the first set. He dropped his service and Lewis, after saving a set point, levelled at 5-5 in the tie-break. Cash flared up again when the umpire called a double fault, then

# Russian scapegoat

Moscow (Reuters) - The Soviet sports committee have sacked Valentin Sych, their deputy Head, and severely reprimanded Vladimir Kolesov, the head of the Soviet Soccer Federation, for the country's disappointing showing at last year's World Cup finals in Spain. *Sportnaya Gazeta*, reported yesterday.

An earlier article by the newspaper blamed differences in coaching strategy between Konstantin Boskov, the manager, and his two assistant coaches for the World Cup failure.

But it said the "final touches" had been added by Sych, who was head of the Soviet party in Spain and who, it said, effectively took charge of team strategy for their last match, a disappointing 0-0 draw with Poland.

# Sarroni closes in

Vicenza, Italy (AP) - The world open road champion, Giuseppe Sarroni of Italy, is close to his second victory in the Tour of Italy, leading the closest rival by more than two minutes, with only four stages to go. However, the young Italian still expects a tough challenge in the mountainous legs scheduled in the Dolomites today and tomorrow.

Sarroni, who won the Tour of Italy last year, is now in the lead of the race. He has a lead of more than two minutes over his closest rival, Gianni Savio. Sarroni is a 26-year-old cyclist from Vicenza. He has won the Tour of Italy twice before. He is now in the lead of the race.

# Man who could upstage Ballesteros

The Silk Cut Masters tournament, replacing the sadly defunct Dunlop Masters of honourable antiquity, has drawn a formidable field to St. Pierre, Capri, this week. Severiano Ballesteros, the United States Master, is there fresh from his first success in Europe at Sandwich last week. So, too, is Nick Faldo, a winner already three times this year, and Greg Norman, professing to have recovered his confidence after treatment for osteoarthritis, and Sandy Lyle, narrowly beaten by Ballesteros last year.

But they will all take a position backstage in the presence of an American of remarkable recent form. He is Colin Reck, a 34-year-old man (hisself) of nearly 40

# Man who could upstage Ballesteros

and earn some money to help out the family budget. Yet, last year, he earned \$2,470 (£202,000) in prize money alone; this year he has already won more than \$175,000 (£11,000).

All that, and, apparently, a course that suits his style perfectly this week. "You have to play the drive right here," he said, and nobody does that better. Of the wealth of statistics spewed out by the computer on the American tour, the only two that really matter are those concerning driving accuracy and greens in regulation. He was first in both categories. He is, in so many ways then, a welcome guest on the European circuit.

# England selectors to pick from the pieces of a broken season

The England selectors are meeting tomorrow to choose their 14 players, the number each country is allowed to muster, for the Prudential World Cup which starts, weather permitting, a week today. In a season that has been anything but old, some countries have yet to play an uninterrupted game of cricket.

This being so, current form, such as it is, should count for much. It would be foolish not to take advantage of the confidence which Fowler, for example, must be feeling for having an average of 136. If an opening partner is being sought for the first time, it is not surprising that the virtuous circle of the one-day game were seen, with Hampshire's attack guilty of 23 wickets.

Kent's innings seldom managed the sustained momentum ideal for his competition, with several batsmen getting out after they had a look at the bowling. At 119 for three, after 30 overs, however, they were rescued by Elliott, Tavaré and Gower. Lamb, Fowler and Tavaré, who has had a good month for Kent,

# Sparkling Fowler delights

Jonathan Plaxton, aged 21, scored a first-class century in his second round on the matchplay stage of the Amateur golf championship at Turbury. He defeated on the last green James Hallat, an American who finished leading amateur in US Masters this year.

Americans had shown their strength by winning 20 places in the last 64, but a cold north easterly wind with driving rain was hardly in their favour yesterday. Plaxton was a dangerous competitor with greater length than Plaxton, but vulnerable because he hits a high ball, more effective no doubt at Augusta than at Turbury seaward holes.

The eighth round Plaxton increased nearly led to three clear with two splendid one-irons. His driving generally was more accurate but he let one go the 13th and paid the penalty. At the 15th, came a classic example of "playing two more", Plaxton having to hole a return putt of seven feet for his four

# June comes in like a wet blanket

The first of June brought no respite for cricketers as they emerged from one of the wettest Mays in memory. Kent were first in action in the Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-finals against Hampshire at Canterbury at around 1.30. Hampshire, who were in the lead at 5.0, but elsewhere it was a wash-out.

Torrential thunderstorms in the early hours of the morning completely washed out yesterday's play at Cheltenham, where Essex were due to meet Warwickshire. The teams reported to the ground in food large areas of it covered in mud and the ground staff busy trying to pump it off.

Kent's match at Canterbury was delayed, but the fact that play could begin at 1.30 reflected tremendous credit on the performance of Kent's "white" surface-water-removing machine which operated nonstop once the rain subsided. By 11.0 they had cleared more than 3,000 gallons of water.

# Baseball

American League: Boston Red Sox 2, Chicago White Sox 1; Cleveland Indians 5, St. Louis Cardinals 2; New York Yankees 5, California Angels 2; Milwaukee Brewers 5, Detroit Tigers 1; Los Angeles Dodgers 5, Philadelphia Phillies 4; Houston Astros 2, Pittsburgh Pirates 1; St. Pauli Redwings 1, Minnesota Twins 0.

National League: Atlanta Braves 10, Philadelphia Phillies 2; Houston Astros 12, Chicago Cubs 10; Cincinnati Reds 2, St. Louis Cardinals 1; Los Angeles Dodgers 4, Philadelphia Phillies 3; San Francisco Giants 2, New York Mets 1.

Baseball news: The Red Sox were leading the Yankees in the first inning, but the Yankees scored in the second. The Yankees won 5-2. The Indians were leading the Cardinals in the first inning, but the Cardinals scored in the second. The Cardinals won 5-2. The Yankees were leading the Dodgers in the first inning, but the Dodgers scored in the second. The Dodgers won 5-2.

# Hampshire are wide of the mark

of them becoming boundary-widens. Malone had five wickets and Marshall one.

Apart from the 23 wickets, the scorebook disclosed that Kent scored 21 from the additional balls which had to be bowled.

Marshall kept up a frightening pace in the gloom. In his first spell, Woodcock was hit at third slip after being dropped at second slip from the game's opening ball. Tremlett was always the steadiest of the other Hampshire bowlers, but his only real chance when he had Tavaré brilliantly caught in the gully.

Taylor at long-on and Benson at mid-wicket fell to catches in successive overs from Cowley before Marshall struck.

Kent and Johnson both edged lifting balls to the wicketkeeper, Cowley was hit low down at first slip. Dilley and Ellison were spared anything short but hung on resolutely before punishing Marshall's succession. Dilley pulled Malone for one huge six before the innings ended.

# No play yesterday

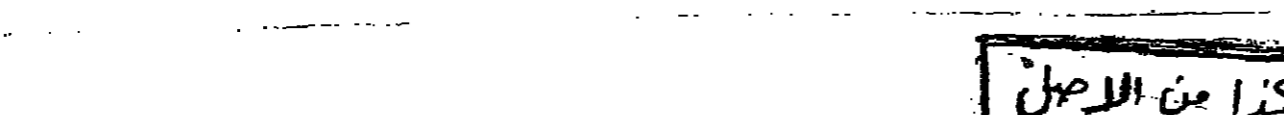
Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-finals: Essex v Warwickshire. Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-finals: Essex v Warwickshire. Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-finals: Essex v Warwickshire.

# June comes in like a wet blanket

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# Baseball

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RUGBY UNION: TEAM-FOR FIRST INTERNATIONAL

Lions choice to All Blacks liking

From Don Cameron, Christchurch

The All Black coach, Bryce Ropé, had a quiet smile on his face yesterday when he heard the British Lions team to face his side in the first international at Lancaster Park on Saturday.

Apart from the necessary omission of John Carleton on the right wing and the choice of Ian Stephens ahead of Staff Jones as loose head prop, the Lions team was, Mr Ropé said, very much as he and his colleagues had predicted.

By choosing David Irwin and Robert Ackerman as the midfield backs the Lions have presented the All Blacks with two sturdy but generally predictable opponents.

However, the Lions may be excused if they have taken the conservative approach for their form has been so variable in the five warm-up games that they might have taken a huge risk if they had chosen a side more geared to running and scheming attack.

Dusty Hare must have run Hugo MacInnes very close for the full back position, although neither has been in totally convincing form.

non-descript match against Mid-Canterbury on Tuesday, and he did launch one of two effective counter-attacks, something the Lions have tried very seldom on tour.

Trevor Ringland has benefited by Carleton's concussion, and has looked eager and enterprising, but he is a young man of rather wayward habits.

Peter Winterbottom has won the open-side flank position ahead of Jim Calder.

The rest of the forward selection was predictable and, as luck would have it, Wales have won the major share of the team with six players in the fifteen and the remaining two in themselves.

What he regards as foul play and this may have been a clear attempt to draw Palmade's attention to the problem.

Palmade is already known as a man firmly opposed to violent play. He is experienced enough as an official to handle whatever arises on Saturday.

However, the Lions may be excused if they have taken the conservative approach for their form has been so variable in the five warm-up games that they might have taken a huge risk if they had chosen a side more geared to running and scheming attack.



David Irwin: a sturdy centre but perhaps too predictable

Man in the middle of a storm

Ashburton, (AFP) - The French referee, Francois Palmade, is emerging as the key man in Saturday's first international match between the British Lions and the All Blacks here.

Palmade's possibly decisive role has been highlighted by the dispute between the Lions and New Zealand teams over the legality of certain rucking seen on the tour.

Oliver, stamping the Lions captain, Fitzgerald, on the head in a second-half ruck.

McBride was correct to say: "That is not part of the game in our book. Players would be sent off at home for that."

Palmae is already known as a man firmly opposed to violent play. He is experienced enough as an official to handle whatever arises on Saturday, without the Lions management shouting warnings.

BOXING

Spanking new Bruno American style

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

The first year of Frank Bruno's world championship cruise is over. He finished with a 100 per cent record, stopping every one of his 16 opponents inside five rounds.

Over the last 14 months he has done everything asked of him but, because of the poor quality of his opponents, his learning has been slow and even with more adventurous matchmaking it could take another two years before we find out how solid is the flesh behind that solid right hand that can destroy anyone in the world.

From the plans of Terry Lawless, Bruno's manager, it seems that the heavyweight's connections are hoping for world title rather sooner than two years. With Joe Bugner out of the way, Bruno can start making tracks Holmesward.

Bruno should not feel too diffident about mixing in such elevated company for on Tuesday night at the Albert Hall he destroyed Barry Fuchs, of New York, with

an uppercut in the fifth round. Fuchs had gone eight rounds with Eddie Gregg, who had knocked out Reynaldo Snipes as an amateur. Snipes today is a leading contender for Holmes's title.

But there are certain worrying aspects about Bruno's boxing that I am sure Mr Lawless hopes will be cured, notably Bruno's stiffness which gives him poor mobility in the close encounters.

This was perhaps because of the lack of sparring partners at his gym in Cannes Town who can correct the big man's mistakes with a clout on the chin.

Frankfurt (AFP) - West Germany have chosen a Frenchman, Charles Roesch, as the new coach of their national table tennis team.

POINT TO POINT

Miss Harper at her best on Baulking Byway

By Ian Reid

Baulking Byway, running for the first time under rules, was an appropriate winner of the RMC Group Ladies' Championship at Chelston on Bank Holiday.

Owned and bred by Ann Bray, his dam being a sister to that great hunter, Baulking Green, he was brilliantly ridden by Rosemary Harper, secretary of the Point to Point Owners Association, who qualified him from her Cotswold stable, together with the useful Housemistress.

Mrs Gordon Spratt's Little Blissham won the Webster's Yorkshire Bitter Men's championship almost as easily after the only danger, Urser, had blundered badly at the second last fence.

First prize was won by Bunny Tarry's Spartan Lace, (also judged the best turned out mare), but although she started favourite in the

race, she was never in the hunt. Scriven Girl, ridden by Willie Bryan, held off the challenges first of Pevay, and then of Gyppy Heather.

Only four of the 61 entries turned out for the Same Tractors Ladies' Open, in which the odds-on Highgate Lady was nearly a fence behind Pacific on the first circuit, but caught him at the last fence to win by six lengths.

Brookie Law and Teresa Webber gained consolation for their narrow defeat at the last meeting here by beating Lucky Rew (Emma Newton) and Kee in the Ladies' Open after Barb's Beau had fallen when dismounting the lead three out.

Yesterday's results: Yarned Hunt: Red Veil, Racecourse Western Princess, Johnson's Yellow Jersey, Ladies' Drummer, Open: Old Vice, Maiden (P), Turmoil, Maiden (P), Princess's Last.

Dilley is the ideal somatotype on the new Kent road to fitness The shape of cricketers to come

If ever there were a competition to find "Mr Cricket", George Poplewell is confident he knows who would win. "He has a highly muscular and athletic frame and is in the same category as Daley Thompson. He's almost the perfect athlete specimen."

In Mr Poplewell's Brave New World of somatotyping, that assessment is encoded as 2-6-2 beside the name of DILLEY, GRAHAM ROY. Every player on the books of the Kent Country Cricket Club has been processed and the scientists are culogising over the shape of the 24-year-old fast bowler Graham Dilley. It is doubtful if any other cricketer in England could match his ratings.

George Poplewell is Director of Physical Education at Kent University and he is also coach of the British Weightlifting team. With the help of an orthopaedic consultant and a physiotherapist, he is masterminding a new training technique for cricketers based upon somatotyping.

"It's the science of pairing physical build with temperament," he explained. "We draw up a chart for each player and work out a series of special diets and exercises for their particular body shape. When the players reach their ideal weight it's written into their contracts that they must stick to it."

Old-time cricketers calling at the university gymnasium in Canterbury to watch Kent training would wince. With sweat pouring from the players as they indulge in something called "explosive strength", say thoughts of coming out of retirement would be quickly dispelled.

gravity and cover space quickly. They need speed, strength and explosiveness to get their bats in when there's a run-out pending, or to whip out to the boundary to retrieve the ball.

The players, in the main, have adapted well to this new crick science. A fitness fanatic, Alan Knott positively enjoys it and most of the younger players seem to relish the training. But the big success has been Dilley. In the past his attitude has been questioned and he has come in for some unwarranted barracking from supporters. Now he is beginning to silence the critics.

"He has been exemplary," Mr Poplewell said. "He's lost over a stone. He's in great shape and all his rhythm and confidence are oozing back. He's a natural and there's nothing to stop him going right to the top with his positive attitude."

The slimmer Dilley will also try a new psychological approach to his game. In the past, so many people advised him about his action he became confused. This season he aims to bowl the way he wants. He said: "I'm also going out there to enjoy it... and win something for Kent. If I get my Test place back, then that's fine."

According to Mr Poplewell, that kind of positive thinking all comes from Dilley's new feeling of well-being. He is optimistic that it will spread through the team. "They've already got the skill and knowledge and we hope we've added the extra dimension." And if Kent can recapture some of the glory of the 1970s, when they won 12 trophies, it will not be without certain irony. Mr Poplewell is a Yorkshireman.



Dilley: a natural alpha?

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Advertisement for 'Looking For Land!' featuring a man's face and text: 'is looking For Land! Every Maltese home building activity is being aimed rapidly to meet residential demand...'

Commercial property/Baron Phillips

Record rent set for Cheapside

Terms were finally agreed last week for the letting of Atlas House on Cheapside, ending months of intense market speculation over whether a record rent was being established in this part of the City.



Queensgate Developments has let its 11,200 sq ft office scheme in the centre of Maidenhead, Kidwells Park House, to Northern Telecom. The development, on land formerly owned by the Maidenhead United Reformed Church, has received a commendation from the local Civic Society.

It is understood that the agreed rent is a shade under £32 a sq ft. Although this is not a record for the City it set new levels for the Cheapside area, which is to the west of the Bank of England and a short distance from the established banking quarter.

The building, on five upper and two lower ground floors, was acquired by Jardine Matheson almost two years ago from Aquis Securities for around £9.25m. JMW were the agents acting for JM in the purchase.

Richard Ellis commented this week that interest in the former Barclays Bank building in Lombard Street is mounting as prospective purchasers compile their offers.

MEPC meanwhile confirmed that it has let a further floor to the First National Bank of Chicago in its 200,000 sq ft Long Acre office building, near Covent Garden.

The letting confirms increasing confidence in the prime City market despite the surfeit of office space on its fringes. Agents believe that at about £32 a sq ft, the rent is good without reflecting an overheating of the prime market.

At the time the block, built around the turn of the century, was occupied by Data Stream, but it was bought on the basis that the Hoare Govett subsidiary would vacate Atlas House. Since the financial information service moved out, the building has been undergoing a major facelift which should be completed towards the end of October.

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The extent of troubled Canadian developer Daon Development Corporation's problems are seen from its quarterly figures to the end of January. In those three months Daon reported a net loss of £310,768m (£5,500m) on total revenue of £517,179m, com-

pared with a loss of £575,000 on revenue of £329,368m in the same period last year.

In his report to shareholders Mr Jack Poole, Daon's president, said the three months' results reflected the continued weak real estate markets in every region.

As with the corporation's year end results, the quarter's figures are tentative pending completion of a debt restructuring programme with leading lenders.

Hardanger Properties has spent £780,000 acquiring a freehold shop unit in Wigan and the Old Crown House in Lichfield, Staffs. The two properties are expected to have an investment value of around £1.2m following extensive refurbishment.

Edinburgh rents are beginning to harden in the £5.25 to £6 a sq ft range. Rents are cheaper in Edinburgh than either Glasgow or Aberdeen, but because of high rates the city is Scotland's most expensive office location.

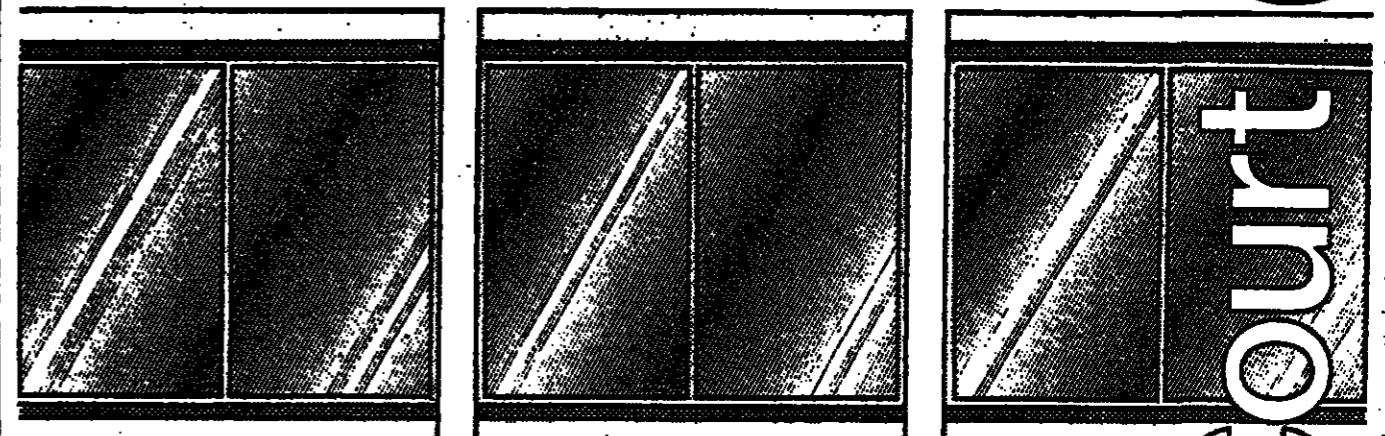
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Commercial and Industrial Property

A design for working



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General Appointments

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL requires an EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT in the Middle East Research Department at the International Secretariat in London.

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COMMERICAL SERVICES... TRUCK... COMPUTER ADVERTISING... SITUATIONS WANTED... YOUNG MAN... ATTRACTIVE LADY... PUBLISHED... PUBLIC NOTICES... INVESTIGATION... CHARTY COMMISSION... CHARTY COMMISSION... LEGAL NOTICES... AUCTIONS & ANTIQUES... DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS... YOUNG PERSON... RESIDENT COOK/HOUSEKEEPER... YOUNG FRENCH GIRL... DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS REQUIRED... COUNTRY PROPERTY... PROPERTY WANTED... EXHIBITIONS... THE FINE ART & ANTIQUES FAIR... URGENTLY REQUIRED BY AMERICAN... ATTRACTIVE 2 bedroom flat...

BIRTHS... AUNT... BERNARD... COOPER... DAUBNEY... ELBORNE... FAY... HEWSON... KEMBALL... LAYTON... MIDDLE... MURRAY... ORR... RAEBURN... SYDNEY... WHITE... MARRIAGES... MURRO-FABRE MACRAE... DEATHS... ADAMS... BERRY... BLADE... CEATON... CHEW... CAMPBELL... CHAPMAN... COMBES... CRITCHFIELD... EDWARDS... FORD... GARDNER... HODSON... JACOBSON... KEMP... LITTLE... MARRIAGES... MURRO-FABRE MACRAE... DEATHS... ADAMS... BERRY... BLADE... CEATON... CHEW... CAMPBELL... CHAPMAN... COMBES... CRITCHFIELD... EDWARDS... FORD... GARDNER... HODSON... JACOBSON... KEMP... LITTLE...

DEATHS... STANLEY... THOMAS... WALTON... WHARF... WILSON... BIRTHDAYS... SINGLAIRE, James. Best wishes and many happy returns of the day, love from Charlotte and Nigel.

MEMORIAL SERVICES... MRS. GERTHIE R.A. MEMORIAL... A service of thanksgiving for the life of the late Mrs. Gertrude...

PERSONAL COLUMNS... HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS... JUNE SUPER BARGAINS... ITALIAN FLIGHT SPECIALISTS... FILGIRIM-AIR... PILGIRIM-AIR LTD... AUSTRALASIA AND WORLD WIDE... WINDSURFERS AND SAILORS AHOY... DO THE THING PROPERLY WITH BLADON LIPS... UP, UP AND AWAY... COMPLETE CONTENTS OF luxury home...

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VICTORIA WINE... MAKE SURE THEY GET THE MESSAGE... Blanc Fousy... If you want to make sure that someone really gets the message in June, put it in The Times personal announcements...

GRANDEUR... Search Adams and Leslie... CAN YOU RESISTA BARGAIN LIKE THIS... 10% w/d British White... MONEY-SAVING FLIGHTS... Money-saving flights... PALMA 283... TENERIFE 283, 162 & 23... VALEKANDER TOURS LTD... 24 Dashed Row, London, W1R 7TE

To advertise in the Times or Sunday Times please telephone 01-837 3311 or 3333... Alternatively you may write to: Times Newspapers Ltd, Classified Dept, FREEPOST, London, WC1 8BR... (Please include a daytime telephone number)

CITY LIVING AT ITS BEST... Tower flats to let unfurnished... 25,000-27,000 per annum... For further details Tel: Barlows Estate Office 81-828 4372 or 01-588 6110

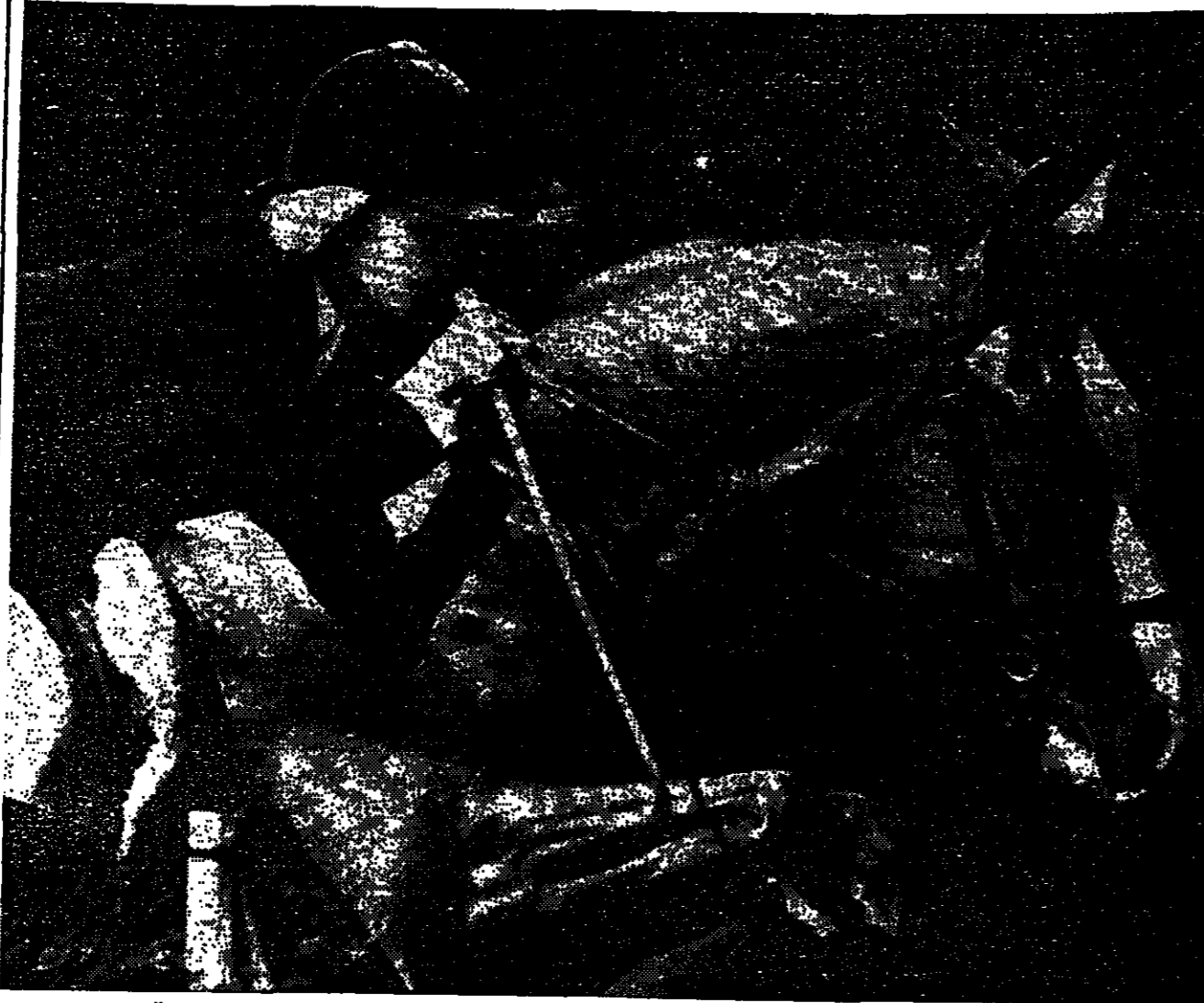


Poll swing provides boost for Steel

Continued from page 1 that the Alliance presented a greater threat than Labour.

Mr David Steel, Alliance campaign leader, said yesterday he expected the Labour vote to dip below 30 per cent by the weekend and the Alliance vote to reach 25 per cent.

Alliance optimism was buoyed for the second day running by large crowds as Mr Steel's campaign bus toured the south Midlands and the Cotswolds.



In action on Ivanorich during the International Horse Show at the White City, London, in 1967.

'A loner who drove herself unbelievably hard'

Caroline Bradley had been at the forefront of British showjumping since she made her debut as a member of the British team at the age of 20 in 1966.

seen to fall short when team effort was required. Miss Bradley and Mr Broome were members of the same team on many occasions.



Fifteen years at the top.



On Tigre, her most successful partnership.

Caroline Bradley dies aged 37

By Rupert Morris

Caroline Bradley, one of the world's leading show jumpers, collapsed and died yesterday after competing in the Suffolk Show at Ipswich. She was 37.

Miss Bradley had been a member of Britain's world championship winning team in 1973 and was voted Daily Express Sportswoman of the Year in 1979.

Princess Margaret, who was guest of honour at the show, expressed her shock and sympathy. News of her death was conveyed to other members of the Royal Family in the royal box at Epsom.

Frank Johnson's campaign trail An occidental 10 minutes in Oxford

The change was the result of an error in transmission.

So the opinion polls were showing the first signs of a move in the direction of the Alliance.

This meant that the British people, having remained calmly extreme for weeks, were at last being affected by the hysterical moderate propaganda to which they have been subjected in recent days.

Along the A40, the news from the car radio was of moderation sweeping the country. No extremist was safe. The polls, it seemed, were the proof.

They were awaiting their leader and his based Battlebus. It was coming in from the West - from the direction of Thorpe Country.

In due course, a huge, luxuriously appointed coach full of excited photographers turned the corner. A cheer went up. The coach passed by and out of sight. This was principally because it was made up of Japanese tourists.

They thus took home a completely false idea of their popularity with the British. Eventually, the one and true bus arrived. This time there was silence from the crowd. It might be another Japanese ruse.

But the cameramen aboard appeared to be from the Occident. Though their equipment, Mr Steel followed the cameras into the crowd. The resultant mêlée bore him away in the direction of The High. I followed. Suddenly, I came face to face with the dangerous man coming the other way. Mr Steel was now moving in the direction of Cheltenham.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events Royal engagements The Duke of Edinburgh addresses the Royal United Services Institute, Whitehall, London, 12.30; as Patron and Trustee of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, attends a reception for young people who have reached the Gold Standard, Buckingham Palace, 2.30; attends the annual dinner of the Incorporated Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Thornton Manor, Merseyside, 8.

Princess Margaret visits the Pro Corda Trust (The National Association of Young Chamber Music Players), Leiston Abbey House, Suffolk, 11; visits the craft workshops and young people's camp in the Thornham Estate, Suffolk, 2.30.

Exhibitions in progress Scotland's heritage of printed books and learning, National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5, Sat 9.30 to 1, Sun 2 and 5; (until Sept 30).

New books - paperback The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week: Collins & Coates, by Aron Mozsar (Penguin, 22.50); Edward Schillebeeckx, Portrait of a Theologian, by John Bowden (SCM Press, 24.95).

The papers The Daily Express, referring to a list it has compiled of "extreme left wing Labour candidates", says: "In asking for your vote they are exploiting the traditional loyalty of Labour supporters; they do not deserve such loyalty - they ought not to get it. This is a list of those who are not wanted in Parliament and have no business to be there."

Roads London and South-east: A322K: Roadworks in Redcliff Gardens, Kensington, A502: Roadworks in Hampstead, High Street at junction with East Street. Bearing Retreat tonight in Horse Guards Parade; roads closed between 9 and 11 pm, including The Mall, Coronation Cup at Epsom Racecourse, Surrey; heavy traffic on A24, A217, Bury, Heath Road and Regent Road, Dartford Tunnel; Roadworks at toll booths. Suffolk Show, The Showground, Ipswich; heavy traffic in Ipswich town centre and on A45.

Weather forecast A depression over N England and S Scotland will move NE. 6 am to midnight London, SE, central S England, East Angles, E Midlands: Sunny periods; scattered showers, wind SW, moderate to fresh; max temp 19 or 20C (66 to 68F).



Table of High tides for various locations including Aberdeen, Belfast, Cardiff, Dover, Southampton, and others, listing times for high and low water.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,145

A crossword puzzle grid with numbers indicating the starting positions for words.

- ACROSS 1 Worker joins leader of Irish party as isolationist (10). 2 One whistling for a pack-animal? (4).

The pound

Table showing exchange rates for various countries including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and USA.

Pollen forecast

Table showing pollen counts for various locations including Norwich, London, Birmingham, Manchester, and others.

Lighting-up time

Table showing sunrise and sunset times for various locations across the UK.

Anniversaries

Births: Marquis de Sade, Paris, 1740; Thomas Hardy, Higher Bockington, Dorset, 1840; Sir Edward Elgar, Broadheath, Worcester, 1857; Giuseppe Garibaldi, died at Caprera, Italy, 1862.

Around Britain

Table showing weather conditions and temperatures for various locations around Britain.

Our address

Information for inclusion in The Times Information Service should be sent to: Cathy James TTTs, The Times, PO Box 200, Grey's Inn Road, London WC1X 9EZ.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: ٥٤٦١ من الأهل